FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

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FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

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Edited by

Derek D. Dempster

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FLYING SAUCER reports are conspicuous by their absence in the Press at the moment, but that does not deter the u.f.o.s from turning up all over the world to show the flag—or should it be the light? Nor does the absence of Press coverage deter more and more people from talking about them; in fact, flying saucers are becoming quite " U "—taking the Mitford out of the expression, quite respectable.

For this we have one man to thank. Edward J. Ruppelt, who has talked more sense about saucers than anyone else in this schizophrenic game. And all because of his unbiased approach and presentation of the facts in his book *Report on the Unidentified Flying Objects*. Proof of this, in Britain anyway, is the manner in which it has been reviewed. Even the sceptics have had to treat it with care and consideration.

What does all this mean? That the time has come for the scientists to pull their heads out of the sand, clean out their ears and eyes and humbly admit there is something worth looking into and that not all saucerphiles are as " nutty as fruitcakes."

With the International Geophysical Year just a few months away it seems reasonable to suggest that all those interested in sky phenomena—natural and otherwise—get together to exchange ideas and information. There's no doubt whatever that both orthodox-minded and saucerphile would benefit. For both are largely ignorant of the other's points of view. In the last few months the seeds of doubt have been sown in the minds of many scientists, astronomers and meteorologists, as reported elsewhere in this issue—especially among those who have been to Antarctica. For there have been manifestations so strange, as to be quite foreign to any known experience on record.

The first step towards collaboration is, of course, through the International Flying Saucer Sighting Days organised by FLYING SAUCER REVIEW for June 30 and September 8. They provide ideal opportunities to start from a common base—for if anything turns up, both sceptic and saucerphile alike will see it simultaneously, which can only lead them to putting their heads together and providing an intelligent answer. The motto, then, is: " Take a sceptic along with you on I.F.S.S.D." And don't mind if nothing turns up and he laughs. That's just the luck of the game.

NEWS REPORT

MOSELEY IN CLOUDLAND

IN the June/July issue of *Saucer News*, writes Waveney Girvan, the Editor, James W. Moseley, claims that he has proof of the origin of the saucers. If Mr. Moseley is right there is no mystery at all, for he states that they are made in one of the south-western States of America, and ever since 1946 they have been launched to convert atomic radiation into electrical energy. They are launched whenever there is evidence of excess radio activity in our atmosphere, and Mr. Moseley blames this highly dangerous excess on certain atomic experiments, not necessarily connected with bombs, which have been carried out in America and which have got out of control. Whenever a radio-active cloud is reported one of these American devices is sent on its errand of mercy.

Mr. Moseley goes even further and claims that it was the possession of this knowledge which led to the suppression of Mr. Bender and his organisation by the men in dark suits. Mr. Moseley concludes his Editorial by suggesting that now he has disclosed the true facts, his own paper may shortly be suppressed. If he has revealed the truth, then it must be admitted that the authorities would be locking the stable-door after the horse had bolted.

What is the likelihood of truth in this explanation? Purely as a hypothesis, Mr. Moseley's contention should be treated with the utmost seriousness and his explanation should be tested at every possible point. He claims that his explanation accounts for every one of the factors in the saucers' appearance and behaviour, but this is going much too far. By saying that he has "proof" without disclosing even the source of his evidence, he cannot expect his public to believe that his unsupported statement really accounts for anything, because a critic will soon point out that given such a free hand one could, on this basis, explain all the mysteries of the universe.

Where his hypothesis, for I must call it that, seems to break down is in the inherent improbability that a radio-active cloud over New Delhi can call forth one of these devices at short notice from one of the south-western States of America to perform its work and return to base, or be disintegrated or jettisoned into the ocean. Such a contraption argues a very high degree of technical skill, much beyond anything that has been made public to date. Also, these objects must have been mass produced. I would say that it would be impossible to keep such a secret for more than one week after one object had been over one country. Mr. Moseley claims that these aerial saviours have been afloat for ten years, and most people will, therefore, be forced to the conclusion that someone has been pulling his leg.

What Mr. Moseley's, or his informant's, motives are must also remain speculative, but an enquiry along these lines might be most rewarding. It certainly will be interesting to see if Mr. Moseley is now suppressed by the men in dark suits. From Mr. Moseley's account it would also appear that the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW will be in some danger as a result of this article.

ANTARCTIC PHENOMENON

IN 1954, whilst a member of the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey, writes Roger Bankes, I was stationed at Base "F," at that time the most southerly base, situated in the Argentine Islands off the west coast of Graham Land, latitude 68. Soon after mid-winter we witnessed upon two mornings what we believed to be hitherto unrecorded optical phenomena.

At about 08.30 hours (local time) low mist over the ice-field dispersed to reveal a slightly clouded sky with good visibility. In the clear air of the Antarctic it is often possible to identify mountains sufficiently high to rise above the curvature of the earth 100 miles distant and, as at that time of the year it remains quite dark until 10.00 hours, we were able to observe the sky clearly. There was a pearly iridescence suffused over the whole sky, much in the manner of oil spread upon the surface of a wet road.

Against this, to the north-east, were ranged a series of pools of light, for the most part, except where they commingled, well-defined ovals of pink and green hue about a dozen in number. These extended over a 60° arc of the horizon and measured individually from 2° to 6°. Two days later much the same thing occurred with the addition of two clear viridian ellipses towards the north. They did not change their position appreciably and remained visible for about an

hour until gradually obscured by dawning day.

As we kept a 24-hour watch on the sky, recording all changes in the weather, we were almost daily familiar with the curious forms of Alto Cumulus type 7 and lenticular cloud peculiar to the Antarctic, and in the opinion of the more experienced meteorologists present the luminous orbs could not have been the Mother of Pearl clouds that are rarely to be seen before dawn or after sunset. As they were witnessed by other bases 300 miles distant simultaneously they were thought to be beyond the tropopause and unconnected with water vapour: there was no disurbance recorded in the ionosphere, nor anything unusual in the routine Radiosonde ascents.

At no time did these spheres appear other than clear coloured lights, but in some cases their saucer shape was so defined that, had they not been witnessed by trained observers under ideal conditions, the phenomena could have given rise to a variety of fanciful speculations.

FLIGHT WITHOUT EFFORT

"ELECTRO-GRAVITICS, seeking the source of gravity and its control, has reached a stage where profound implications for the entire human race begin to emerge," writes an American journalist in the current issue of the Swiss aviation monthly, *Interavia*. "Perhaps the most startling and immediate implications of all involve aircraft, guided missiles—atmospheric and free space flight of all kinds."

If one of the several lines of research achieved their goal—and it seemed certain that this must occur—gravitational acceleration as a structural, aerodynamic and medical problem would cease to exist. So would the task of providing combustible fuels in massive volume in order to escape the earth's gravitic pull—now the biggest headache facing today's would-be "space-men."

And towards the long-term progress of mankind a whole new concept of electro-physics was being levered out into the light of human knowledge. Some projects were over 30 years old.

"The concept of weightlessness in conventional materials which are normally heavy, like steel, aluminium and barium, is difficult enough," explains the journalist, "but some theories, so far borne out empirically in the laboratory, postulate that not only can they be made weightless, but they can in fact be given a negative weight."

In this particular line of research, the weights of some materials had been cut by as much as 30 per cent. by "energizing" them. Disc aerofoils, two feet in diameter, incorporating a variation of the simple two-plate electrical condenser, charged with 50 kilovolts and a total continuous energy input of 50 watts, had achieved a speed seventeen feet per second in a circular air course twenty feet in diameter.

Larger discs, three feet in diameter, had run in a fifty-foot diameter air course under a charge of 150 kilovolts with such impressive results that the cloak of secrecy had been thrown over them.

Variations in this work had been done in a vacuum with startling results. A flame-jet generator to supply power up to 15 million volts was being developed; and such a force raised exponentially to levels capable of pushing man-carrying vehicles through the air—or outer space—at ultra high speeds was now the object of concerted efforts in many countries.

Once achieved, it would allow vehicles to behave like flying saucers—FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, Vol. 1, No. 1, and Vol. 1, No. 5.

Entirely new and unsuspected electrical waves similar to electro-magnetic radio waves in basic concept are apparent in the ether, says *Interavia's* contributor. They have been created and transmitted through concentric layers of the most efficient kinds of electro-magnetic and electrostatic shielding without apparent loss of power in any way. There was evidence, but no proof, that these waves were not limited by the speed of light: the reason why the new science seemed to strike at the very foundations of Einsteinian Relativity Theory.

But rather than invalidate current basic concepts such as Relativity, the new knowledge of gravity would probably expand their scope, ramifications and general usefulness.

The most successful line of electro-gravitics research so far reported was that carried out by Townsend T. Brown, an American who had been researching into gravity for the past 30 years. He was now conducting research projects in the United States and on the Continent and postulated that there was between electricity and gravity a relationship parallel and/or similar to that which existed between electricity and magnetism. And as the coil was the usable link

in the case of electro-magnetics, so was the condenser that link in the case of electro-gravitics.

The detailed implications of man's conquest of gravity, continued *Interavia's* correspondent, were innumerable. In cars, trains and boats the headaches of transmission of power from engine to wheels or propellers would simply cease to exist. Construction of bridges and big buildings would be greatly simplified by temporary induced weightlessness*. Other facets of work now under way indicated the possibility of close controls over the growth of plant life; new therapeutic techniques; permanent fuel-less heating units for homes and industry; new manufacturing techniques and a whole new field of chemistry. The list was endless . . . and growing.

Ignoring the military significance of electro-gravitics in international affairs, what the development of the new science might do to the value of raw materials was perhaps interesting to contemplate. Some materials were more prone to induced weightlessness than others. They were becoming known as *gravitic isotopes*. Some were already quite hard to find, but others were common and, for the moment, cheap. Since these ultimately might be the vital lofting materials required to the creation of contra-gravitational fields, their value might become extremely high with equivalent re-arrangement of wealth of national resources, balance of economic power and world geo-strategic concepts.

How soon all this would come about was directly proportional to the amount of effort put into it. Surprisingly, countries usually in the lead in this type of research had only been fooling around. Britain, with her National Physical Laboratory, had apparently never seriously considered that the attempt to overcome gravity was worth the effort and was now scurrying around trying to discover what it was all about. The Americans† only put token amounts of money into research, while the French, a little more open-mindedly, had initiated a number of projects, but these were on a very small scale.

Most of the work undertaken so far had been of a private venture nature, by undercapitalised university professors in lofts and basements. But the word was afoot now and the Governments were taking a growing interest.

* It is believed the Pharaohs of Egypt possessed the secret and used it to build the Pyramids.

† It is now well known that about fifteen American electronic and aircraft companies are actively engaged on anti-gravity research. See FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, Jan.-Feb. The Indian Government, too, is interested and has offered a substantial prize for the most valuable contribution to anti-gravity.—Ed.

FLYING SAUCER enthusiasts anxious to spread the word among their friends, business associates and others are now able to do so—with gaily-coloured stamps they can stick on their mail.

Devised and produced in collaboration with Mrs. Clara John, of the "Little Listening Post," Washington, the stickers will be available from mid-June. Price £1 16s. 0d. or $5.00 per 1,000 stickers from "Flying Saucer Review," the "Little Listening Post," and local groups. Spread the saucer story with a stamp.

INTERNATIONAL FLYING SAUCER SIGHTING DAY

LIKE the International Geophysical Year, *International Flying Saucer Sighting Day* has aroused a lot of attention. From all over the world people have been writing in to FLYING SAUCER REVIEW seeking details and sighting forms. And the Press have been making quite a production out of it—in fact, they have taken it up in quite a big way.

In Britain saucerphiles, ranging from jet pilots to old ladies, will be on the lookout from airfields to mountain-tops and back-gardens with all manner of instruments. FLYING SAUCER REVIEW'S own team will be at Hampstead Heath, London, complete with a radiation counter fitted with a special antenna. Tested recently, it recorded radiation from a high-flying B.47 atom-bomber. Another, but smaller, team will watch from a jet airfield.

From overseas the response has been enthusiastic. Dr. Alfred Nahon, of *Le Courier Interplanetaire*, of Lausanne, Switzerland, has asked parties to keep a lookout. So has Signor Ernesto Thayaht, of C.I.R.N.O.S., in Italy. But he has gone a step further by designing a "Ufoscope," details of which will appear in the next issue of this magazine.

From New Zealand Harold Fulton writes to say his Civilian Saucer Investigation Organisation will be out on June 30 and September 8 and in the United States practically all saucer groups are taking part—from Texas and California, to Washington and New York.

For the benefit of new subscribers who missed the last issue, here's what our two International Flying Saucer Sighting Days are all about.

They were designed to stimulate interest in u.f.o.s, to show they are still with us before they are confused with artificial satellites, and to prepare the way for co-operation with scientific bodies during the International Geophysical Year.

The two dates chosen were selected because they were Saturdays, when the majority of people are free to do as they please and have the time to take up vigil and because the Meteorological Records for Britain show that the weather is at its best then.

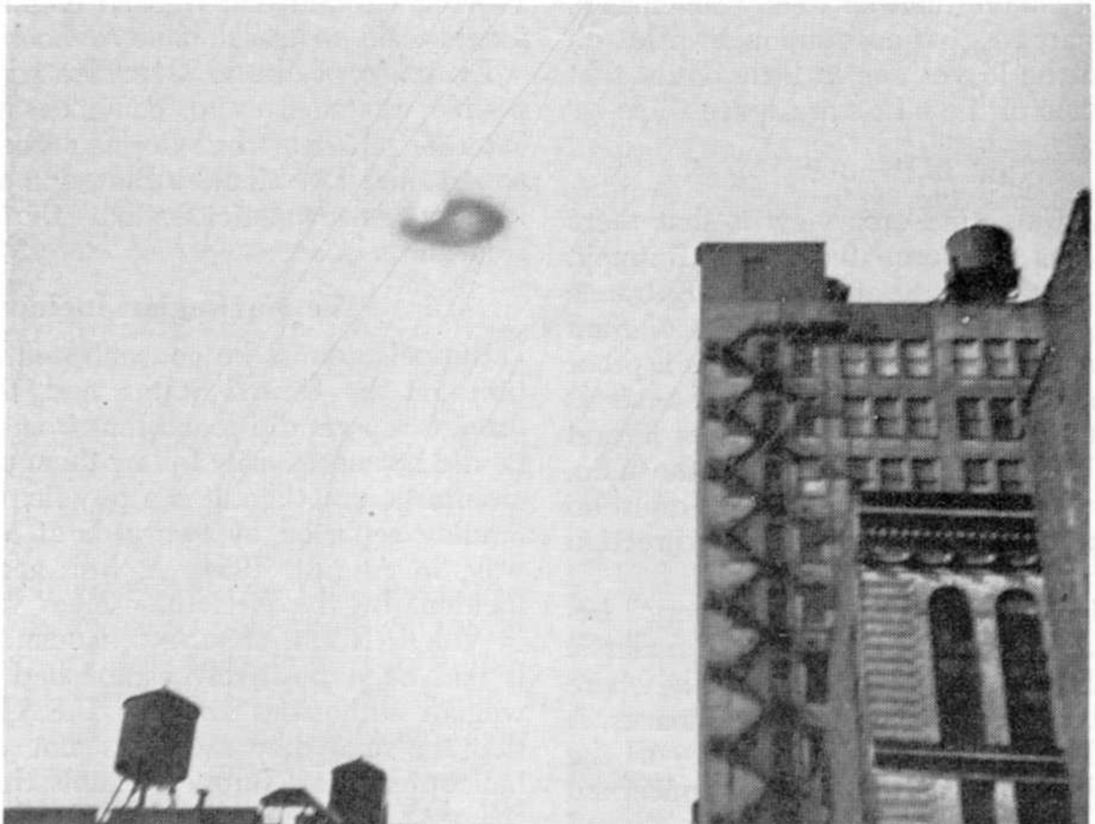
Readers are advised not to go alone, but in a party of three or more. In this way any spotting can be properly corroborated. In addition, many more details emerge when several people see something.

To make a success of a spotting day three things are essential: a sharp pair of eyes, a pair of binoculars or a telescope and a watch set to the B.B.C. time signal or abroad, an accurate local time signal. A camera, too, is an advantage. For those who have the eyes and the watches but no binoculars, telescopes or cameras, there's no need to be discouraged from taking up the hunt.

In the event of a sighting report, form holders should fill these in and send them to their local flying saucer groups or to FLYING SAUCER REVIEW. They will then be studied and, where applicable, co-related to give a pattern of behaviour.

Of course, one of the most important ingredients to the success of a Saucer Spotting Day is flying saucers. Let's hope they show up in numbers to prove our point.

Will you be lucky enough to get a picture like this?



Warren Siegmond took this picture from a New York rooftop on May 15, 1955. It is one of five exposures of the "Surprise-Visiting" u.f.o.

Report on Unidentified Flying Objects

SOME people feel very strongly about flying saucers, believing in them with an almost religious fervour or dismissing the whole idea with the contemptuous bitterness of an anti-cleric attacking miracles. Between the two extremes are those who are puzzled, amazed and sometimes just a little worried.

For them Edward J. Ruppelt has written the *Report on the Unidentified Flying Objects* (Gollancz, 18s.), a factual and thoroughly sensible book summarising practically all that is known on this subject. There are no photographs or artist's impressions of Venusians . . . but there is plenty of scientific appraisal of a lot of strange happenings.

After analysing hundreds of reports, flying thousands of miles all over the U.S. to talk to scores of people who had seen flying saucers, and after thrashing the subject out with many scientists, Edward Ruppelt is in a better position than anyone to write a complete account of the flying saucer enigma in America up to 1953.

He does not commit himself to any conclusion, and is too smart to give an opinion in print on this point. But he leaves one in little doubt that he believes some of the u.f.o.s are space-ships.

What is Proof?

The official U.S. Air Force view is that there is no proof that they are. But, asks Ruppelt, "does a u.f.o. have to land at the River Entrance to the Pentagon, near the Joint Chiefs of Staff Offices," before proof is admitted? "Or is it proof when a ground radar station detects a u.f.o., sends up a jet to intercept it, the jet pilot sees it, and locks on with his radar, only to have the u.f.o. streak away at phenomenal speed?" This question indicates without doubt in which direction Ruppelt's sympathies lie.

To the old hand with years of "saucery" behind him, the background to some of the classic cases in this book is fascinating, especially where it debunks them or proves them to be hoaxes. A passage in the detailed official report of the Maury Island mystery said individuals concerned admitted that the rock fragments they alleged fell from one of the half-dozen saucers they had seen hovering over their boat had nothing to do with saucers. *The whole thing was a hoax.* They had sent the rock fragments to a magazine publisher as a joke, stating that the rock could have been part of a flying saucer. To cap the lot, neither man was a harbour patrolman, as each had claimed.

Edward Ruppelt goes into the Lubbock lights mystery in great detail and tells how, after months of testing with special instruments, the lights turned out to be very commonplace and easily explainable natural phenomena. In dealing with some of the other classics, however, Ruppelt really makes the authorities look foolish. He shows, too, how time after time sober, sceptical pilots reported solid objects glowing a deep blue, or trailing a fiery orange glow, or silvery and cigar shaped, which, when chased, would perform unlike any aircraft man had yet invented . . . manœuvre in such a way that no man could survive the extreme forces he would experience if these were space-ships and he were riding them; and how scientists at the White Sands Proving Ground had tracked u.f.o.s with instruments used to track giant skyhook balloons.

Evidence of the kind presented by all these people was such as to convince men such as Walther Riedel, the German rocket research expert, and Dr. Maurice Biot, one of the world's leading aerodynamicists, that the u.f.o.s were from outer space.

The Norwegian Incident

Ruppelt admits he concentrated his investigations on the United States and that although foreign reports did reach him from time to time, he did not necessarily follow them up. Under the circumstances, then, it is a pity he mentioned the landing reported by two girls at Mosjoen, Norway, in August, 1954. A full account of the incident by the girls themselves was published in Vol. 1, No. 4, of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, after it had been positively established by the Norwegian authorities and the U.S.A.F. in Europe that the man they saw was not an American helicopter pilot. Ruppelt claims the man was a shaggy-haired U.S. pilot.

One thing the *Report on the Unidentified*

(*Continued on page* 32)

Official Saucers Screened

by Max B. Miller and Ted Bloacher

LISTED in *Daily Variety* as the "biggest 'scoop' in the history of the film business . . ." and regarded as "Hollywood's best-kept secret," "Unidentified Flying Objects" is the world's first feature-length documentary motion picture on the flying-saucer phenomena.

Not one hint of the epochal film appeared in the gossip columns, not one line in the trade papers, not one word leaked in any of the u.f.o. journals of the world; not, that is, until it was previewed to the Press on April 23, 1956.

I had the fortunate opportunity to see the motion picture twice. First, at Projection Room "A" at the Goldwyn studios, and then just one week later at the film's first public matinée showing at the Fox Wilshire Theater.

"U.F.O."—as it is unofficially designated—is a Greene-Rouse production, nationally released in the United States in May-June through United Artists Corporation. It was produced by Clarence Greene, directed by Winston Jones (his first time at it), written by Francis Martin and photographed by Howard A. Anderson, Ed Fitzgerald and Bert Spielvogel.

My reactions were decidedly mixed after viewing this film for the first time. Briefly, "U.F.O." is a 91-minute almost completely black-and-white documentary on the u.f.o., from 1947 to 1952, featuring two "actual" movies of u.f.o.s in flight, these being reproduced in full colour. But more about that later.

What probably amounts to the three top ex-Air Force authorities on the u.f.o. were all acquired as technical directors for the three-years-in-the-making "U.F.O."—namely, Albert M. Chop*, former chief, press section, Air Materiél Command; Major Dewey Fournet, Jr., U.S.A.F. intelligence officer and liaison between the Pentagon and Project Blue Book; and Edward J. Ruppelt (author, *The Report On Unidentified Flying Objects*), former director, Project Blue Book (Air Technical Intelligence Center, Dayton, Ohio). And a rather impressive lot they were!

The film opens where most saucer books do: the Kenneth Arnold sighting of June 24, 1947, and ends with the dramatic details of the so-called "Washington Crisis" of July, 1952.

The Arnold, Mantell, Gorman and a number of the other better-known incidents are thoroughly re-enacted. Outside of the Washington, D.C., affair, the Mantell story, leading up to the time of his crash, is the most spell-binding. Obvious theatrics were employed here and there.

Now to the *pièce de résistance*. The two aforementioned clips of actual u.f.o.s in flight are the now very famous Delbert C. Newhouse (Tremonton, Utah) and Nicholas Mariana (Montana) colour films. Probably most of us recall these shots as they were related in the last two of Major Donald E. Keyhoe's and Edward J. Ruppelt's *Report On The Unidentified Flying Objects*. Yet they proved to be somewhat disappointing. Obviously, they are not the *answer*. But they are another cog which make the u.f.o.s go round. Both groups (two u.f.o.s in the Mariana sequence and over a dozen on the Newhouse film) were photographed on 16-mm. film, at 16 frames-per-second, and through 75-mm. (3X) telephoto lenses.

* Keyhoe: *Flying Saucers from Outer Space.*

"Flying Saucer Review" believes "Unidentified Flying Objects" to be of such importance that it brings you two distinct reviews of the film by Max B. Miller, head of Flying Saucers International of Los Angeles, California, and Ted Bloacher, Director of Research at the Civilian Saucer Investigation of New York; both prominent and serious-minded investigators.

" Unidentified Flying Objects " most certainly does not follow official lines and policy; nor does it portray an unbiased (from the sceptics' viewpoint) history of the u.f.o. It is—for a pleasant change—decidedly *pro-saucer.* The customary preface to such films—i.e., " We gratefully acknowledge the co-operation of the United States Air Force . . ."—was conspicuously absent.

Reaction to date has been essentially good. In fact, " U.F.O." received surprisingly lengthy and thorough reviews and news dispatches via the various news media, including the major wire services.

Press Reaction

On the whole, Press reaction was about as varied as it was interesting. For example. . . .

United Press: " The movie scoop of the year . . ."; Los Angeles *Examiner*: ". . . first-rate journalistic beat . . . careful documentary . . . extremely engrossing . . ."; Los Angeles *Times*: ". . . the incidents depicted and the words quoted . . . just don't make for very interesting drama, even documentary drama"; Louella Parsons: (" U.F.O. ") " . . . is attracting front-page and editorial attention although what the saucers are is still a mystery . . ."

In a review titled " Film Proves Saucers Exist!" Beverley Hills *Press* reviewer Hazel Flynn pointedly asks: " And as long as we are on the subject WHY HAVE WE HAD VISITORS FROM SPACE SINCE MR. EISENHOWER TOOK THE PRESIDENTIAL CHAIR? Could it be that the residents of other planets like the men now engaged in smashing the Stalin-worshipping cult in Russia are more friendly to Ike and the Republicans than their predecessors?"

And *Mirror-News* columnist Paul Coates added a touch of intrigue when he quoted the conclusion of the Press showing telegram announcement he received: " . . . Urgently request contents of this wire be kept confidential until showing and conference at Academy Award Theater."

" Feeling like a refugee from a cloak-and-dagger plot," added Coates, " I presented my credentials at the theater. . . . The man at the door handed me a large envelope and ushered me to a seat."

He concluded: " I doubt that very many people who see the film will fail to be convinced that we have been receiving periodic visitations from outer space."

" Unidentified Flying Objects " was premiered to the public on May 9 at the Fox Wilshire Theater, Los Angeles. When I saw this film the second time at that showing the objective was not to see the picture again, but rather to check attendance and audience reaction. This was probably for the best, too. For while I was thoroughly enthusiastic after viewing " U.F.O." the first time, I found the second time round quite a let-down. However, the Utah and Montana clips were well worth examining again.

The approximate attendance at the first matinée showing was 400—and at $1.00 per head! An enthusiastic doorman told me, in effect, that that was a " fantastic " number for such an early hour (1.45 p.m.). The Fox Wilshire Theater, it was later reported, set an opening day attendance record for the house, grossing about $2,500 on May 9. I later learned that the first week's attendance figure was about or a little above " average."

But even " average " for the Fox Wilshire is fantastic for such an off-beat film. The " Fox " is one of the top first-run, exclusive-engagement theatres in the country. " U.F.O." just followed the world premiere of the multi-million-dollar, " Alexander The Great,"* and just preceded the equally expensive and touted " Trapeze." Not bad in any language for the underdog u.f.o.

Audience Reaction

Audience reaction at the Press preview was good, sprinkled here and there with applause. Not so enthused were the crowd at " Fox," probably because they—and understandably—expected something better. " U.F.O." was greatly played-up in Press notices and advertising, and likewise on local television.

Quarter-page Los Angeles newspaper ads, for example, screamed—

" ' It appears to be a metallic object of tremendous size. . . . I'm trying to close in on it!' (Mantell, obviously—*Au.*)—AND THEN HE CRASHED! . . . *THE TRUTH ABOUT FLYING SAUCERS!* . . . YOU WILL SEE THEM WITH YOUR OWN EYES: *Actual color films of the Unidentified Flying Objects*

*After that fiasco it's not surprising " U.F.O." went well!—Ed.

that have been kept 'top secret' until now! . . . EVERY SHOCKING WORD, EVERY FANTASTIC SCENE, EVERY FRIGHTENING MOMENT IS *TRUE! . . .*"

To sum up I can do nothing but at least recommend "Unidentified Flying Objects" to all so-called "saucer-fans"—but if for no other reason than to see the famed, and hitherto purportedly "secret," U.F.O. films. The movie isn't, on the whole, particularly interesting. The pace is slow, the action stiff. It is largely what is so disparagingly referred to as "re-hash." But it might be a good idea to remind ourselves again of the composite history of the u.f.o. and to be lead back to the objective path. To those who are dogmatically sceptical of the u.f.o., this film will prove of little value. But for the open-mindeds and undecideds, it should be a tremendous wedging block for greater interest . . . and truthful searching.

The whole family should see this one.

The more the merrier.

★

Ted Bloacher, *Research Director, Civilian Saucer Investigation of New York, writes:*

ON May 9, together with about thirty members of Civilian Saucer Intelligence of New York, I attended a special preview of a film that could very well change the public relations aspect of the u.f.o. overnight. Messrs. Greene and Rouse have handled their controversial subject matter in an altogether factual and down-to-earth manner. They have been careful to use only material that can be fully substantiated by official documents from the Air Force files.

A somewhat slim storyline, interwoven through the film, re-enacts the activities of Al Chop during his tenure of office with the Air Force as Civilian Information Specialist. During this time, Chop's scepticism gradually changed to interest, and eventually to his final conviction that "the saucers are interplanetary."

The producers have wisely refrained from trying to duplicate the visual appearance of u.f.o.s in any of the cases they refer to; the reactions of some of the witnesses are reconstructed in several cases. By avoiding facsimiles of the objects in question, they have made two heretofore secret Newhouse and Mariana films showing actual u.f.o.s in flight considerably more forceful and conspicuious

Beside these two cases, the film mentions the Kenneth Arnold report of June 24, 1947, and describes the furore that followed. The scene in the Godman Field tower during the Mantell chase is reconstructed with great care; numerous details, not known before, are related, including the names of two of Mantell's wing men, Hammond and Hendricks. The latter, along with a third pilot, landed and took off again, joining Mantell in the chase: "What the hell are we looking for?" (Hammond stayed behind to refuel.)* A first-hand account is given by Captain Willis Sperry, of his observation of a cigar-shaped object that circled his American Airlines plane in the vicinity of Washington, D.C., on the night of May 29, 1950. A brief scene depicts the reactions of pilots Vinther and Bachmeier in the cockpit of their Mid-Continent airliner, just after takeoff from Sioux City, Iowa, when they saw a large lighted object head directly toward them and pass some 200 feet to the right, reverse its direction and pass under the nose of the plane. There is also a re-enactment of Lt. George Gorman attempting to close his F51 on a light that refused to be closed in on. This took place over Fargo, N.D., on the night of October 1, 1948.

Washington Incident

But the most fascinating sequence is the reconstruction of the radar observations of "bogeys" over Washington, D.C., on the nights of July 19-20 and 26-27, 1952. Under the supervision of Wendell Swanson, the civilian radar expert who was responsible for the technical analysis of these radar trackings, the jet intercept mission over Washington on July 26-27 is realistically and dramatically reproduced within the Washington Control Center; the radar scope clearly shows the "blip" of Lt. William Patterson's jet, along with a small cluster of the "bogeys," which Patterson also spotted visually as bright lights.

The Montana and Utah films are shown several

* See Ruppelt, *The Report on UFO*, p. 57: "My next step was to try to find out what Mantell's wing men had seen . . . but this was a blind alley. All of this evidence was in the ruined portion of the microfilm, even their names were missing."

times during the course of the film, and at the end they are run again; action is stopped for closer examination at specific points, the frames are enlarged, the films are run again in slow motion, reversed, stopped again and then run through steadily several more times. Upon first viewing, the few seconds of film flip by so quickly that they appear to leave much to be desired. Upon closer inspection, there is ample chance to absorb the real significance of this evidence. In the Mariana sequence, two white ovoid objects are shown moving laterally, from right to left, across a background of blue sky, flying equidistant from each other at a moderately rapid rate of speed. Toward the end of the 6-9 second sequence the objects pass behind the supporting framework of a water tower, then gradually diminish in size as they fade into the distance. These objects were headed into the wind.

The Utah film shows 16 bluish-white objects milling about in disorderly groups of fives and sixes against a blue background of sky. They appear round and oval-shaped, are fuzzy and not generally as bright as the objects in the Montana film, but occasionally a few of them brighten up considerably, as though they were self-luminous. The photographer then swings toward a single object that has moved away from the rest, holding the camera still to allow the object to pass through its field several times. This terminates the sequence, as the main group moved too far away to photograph again. This sequence lasts a few seconds longer than the Montana film.

Extensive Analyses

After extensive analysis by the Photo Reconnaissance Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, and the U.S. Navy Photo Interpretation Center at Washington, D.C., the possibilities that these objects were meteors, balloons, birds, or any known aircraft, have been eliminated. The Narrator tells his audience:

"*The motion picture you have just seen is authentic. It is substantiated by documentation, eye-witness accounts, supported by affidavits and official Government reports. The evidence has been presented to you with integrity and objectivity to establish the fact that unidentified flying objects . . . do exist. Some kind of flying objects have been photographed in the sky. If they cannot be identified as objects known to man—what are they? If they are not man-made—who made them? If they are not of this planet—where are they from?*"

The direction of the film is kept low-keyed throughout. There is a static quality in the depiction of the Chop, Fournet and Ruppelt roles: one reason for not using professional actors in these parts is, presumably, because non-professionals add to the quality of the documentary.

There was a bit of padding throughout the film: depicting the routine of filling out forms, and other mechanical involvements with the processes of red tap, lend little of importance to the film. However, some of what was felt at first to be extraneous material is very probably essential to an audience less familiar with the subject; for instance, the repetition of newspaper headlines proclaiming " SAUCERS " in bold type may remind audiences of much they had forgotten, and perhaps make them wonder why such headlines are no longer being seen. And the occasional shots of family life within the Chop household give a welcome relief to the uniforms, so prevalent throughout.

Serious, Intelligent Film

A good deal of emphasis is placed on a number of magazine articles about u.f.o.s that had a major effect on public opinion. Among those mentioned are the *Life* article of April 7, 1952, entitled " Have We Visitors From Space?" and the *Look* article, " Hunt For The Flying Saucer," in the July 1, 1952, issue of that magazine. There is a puzzling omission of any mention of Donald Keyhoe; this is curious, since Keyhoe's article in *True* magazine for January, 1950, and those appearing in following editions, were as important in moulding public opinion as either the *Life* or *Look* references.

There is little point in making these picayune criticisms: we have here the sort of serious, intelligent, and informative presentation—something we've waited for for a long time—which should have a profound effect upon a misinformed and apathetic public. It certainly deserves everyone's attention.

According to United Artists " U.F.O." will be premiered in London in September and will be released throughout Europe in the near future.

Antarctica has always been shrouded in mystery. Suddenly, though, the pointer swings towards the penguin's paradise and leads the Hon. Brinsley le Poer Trench *to ask*:

DOES ANTARCTICA HOLD THE KEY?

AL BENDER, head of the International Flying Saucer Bureau of Bridgeport, Connecticut, hit upon the answer to the saucer mystery early in 1953 and would have revealed the secret had he not been frightened into silence by three men "*in black suits*." Other investigators were frightened into silence, too, and like Bender they closed down their organisations.

The reason for the dissolution of these organisations has always been shrouded in mystery. But now Gray Barker brings us the inside information in his book *They Knew Too Much About Flying Saucers* and leads me to ask whether the key to it all lies in the frozen wastes of the Continent surrounding the South Pole.

After the closure of I.F.S.B. friends and colleagues of Bender asked him a series of questions. The stock answer to most of them was "*I can't answer that.*" It was the reply given when they asked: "Does this (the closing of I.F.S.B.) have anything to do with the South Pole?" On one occasion Bender visibly started when Gray Barker mentioned the South Pole.

Australian Bureau Closed

One of the other organisations visited and closed down was the Australian Flying Saucer Bureau, directed by Edgar Jarrold. He, too, was concerned with a flying saucer theory connected with Antarctica. In fact, Gray Barker discloses that Bender and Jarrold had been working very closely on the same hypothesis.

Now, some people believe that if the ice around Antarctica continues to grow, the earth will tilt and the tidal waves, floods and other natural upheavals resulting from this calamity will engulf civilisation. Eventually the earth will settle down with new poles on what are now points around the equator.

Those who advance this theory point out that a cataclysm would be nothing new; that the Earth's axis has shifted and polar wastes have become tropical belts approximately every 6,000 years. Incidentally, Immanuel Velikovsky in his celebrated book *Worlds In Collision* gives evidence of a similar nature. Are all the memories of Noah's Ark, Atlantis and Lemuria complete fables?

Antarctic ice now covers 6,000,000 square miles, about double the area of the United States, and is growing at the rate of 5 trillion tons each year, according to Barker.

Saucer Base?

In the event of the South Pole being the starting point of a planetary drama, is it not possible that space visitors have noticed what is about to occur, and might be here either (1) to observe and check up, (2) to help and evacuate some of earth's inhabitants, or (3) even to find some way to stop the planet tilting? If any of these suppositions are near the mark, could it be *that flying saucers from outer space have already established a base* in Antarctica?

The Jan.-Feb. issue of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW carried an important article containing a statement by a top-ranking American V.I.P. to the effect that flying saucers are manned by visitors from outer space who are trying to work out a method of breathing and staying alive in our atmosphere in order to land and establish contact. The article indicated that if the visitors were Martians their own atmosphere would resemble conditions one would expect to find 75,000 feet

above the earth—where the oxygen content is very thin indeed. A Martian, whose biochemistry has been evolved to operate at altitudes between 75,000 and 100,000 feet above our earth, would suffer a complete breakdown if he were to come into our oxygen-rich atmosphere and would literally be incinerated through breathing our air. The article also mentioned the charred bodies of little men found in crashed saucers.

What has all this to do with Antarctica? Just this. Antarctica is unpopulated. In fact, the continent is unknown and unexplored. It is an ideal place for alien flying saucer crews to condition themselves to our atmosphere . . . a place where their activities would go unobserved for the most part; but not altogether. Saucer researchers will recall the report that came in from Santiago, Chile, during the Spring of 1950. It quoted Commander Augusto Vars Orrego, head of the Chilean Antarctic Base, who said several explorers under his command had photographed flying saucers.

Power Charger

Another factor which may have some bearing on the South Pole theme is that saucers may possibly be powered by some type of force field that has a direct effect on gravity. The South Magnetic Pole may be an ideal place for charging up with this power.

It would be interesting to see whether it is possible to plot the reported courses of a number of saucer sightings to indicate whether there is a pattern, showing a trend of saucer travel to and from Antarctica? Maybe, the **International Flying Saucer Spotting Days** announced by FLYING SAUCER REVIEW will bring us some interesting information in this respect.

Al Bender was asked by his friends in 1953 whether the Government knew about saucers. He replied: "They have known what they are for two years."

Now, that answer gives us 1951. Referring once more to the article in the Jan.-Feb. issue of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, you will recall the Mexican engineer who said in 1951 that he had helped to load a flying saucer and its dead crew into an American "Flying Box-car" aeroplane, and his description of how the little men were burnt black. Maybe it was through this crashed saucer and possibly others that the U.S. Government, as Bender said, knew in 1951 what the saucers were.

Bender was also asked whether they would tell the people what they were. He replied: "It has got to a point where they will have to."

Finally: "When will the Government tell the people about the saucers?" His answer: "If not within five months from now, not for about four years." That brings us to 1957. And by a strange coincidence to the International Geophysical Year. Eleven Governments—Argentina, Australia, Chile, France, Great Britain, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Union of South Africa, the U.S.S.R., and the United States—have plans for bases on or near the coast of Antarctica. France, Great Britain, the U.S.S.R. and the United States intend to build stations inland.

Numerous expeditions are to be made by air and by land in an all-out scientific advance on Antarctica. The British Trans-Antarctic Expedition proposes to cross the continent by way of the South Pole. The United States will occupy a station at the South Pole, and equipment will be dropped to them by air. The U.S.S.R. intend to establish a camp at the Geomagnetic Pole.

On July 29 last year it was announced from the White House itself—immediately after the Geneva Summit talks (another strange coincidence)—that the United States planned to launch artificial satellites designed to orbit the earth 250 miles up, at 18,000 m.p.h. during the International Geophysical Year.

Tumbling for Antarctica

Why are we now in such a hurry to get up there? And why are so many nations now tumbling over themselves to explore scientifically and survey Antarctica in 1957?

Incidentally, all nations will share the information derived from the satellites, and although there are independent expeditions to Antarctica wide and full co-operation is the order of the day.

What has caused all this sudden *rapprochement* on the part of previously antagonistic powers? Have they secretly patched up their national disagreements in the face of unknown visitors from space? One of the theories going the rounds is that the visitors are Martians looking for a new planet to live upon. Some astronomers and scientists think that Mars is short of water.

They may well have occupied the moon

already. Many strange things have been happening there lately. Mysterious flashing lights, white spots that come and go, and the discovery of a bridge of 20 miles span, 5,000 feet up above the Mare Crisium, that was not there before, by John J. O'Neil on July 29, 1953. Subsequently, this bridge was also seen by Dr. Percy Wilkins and by Patrick Moore, both well-known and respected British astronomers. This region of the moon had been observed hundreds, possibly thousands, of times before by astronomers and is described in all the textbooks. The sudden appearance, therefore, of a gigantic bridge was, to say the least, sensational. On December 23, 1953, Dr. Wilkins was interviewed by B.B.C. commentator Bernard Forbes. According to Keyhoe, Wilkins said in the broadcast that the bridge looked artificial and seemed like an engineering job.

You may remember that H. G. Wells imagined a strange race of people called Selenites inhabiting subterranean cavities on the moon. The interesting thing is that science now supports the idea of underground caverns. They say the crust of the moon is more or less hollow within 20 or 30 miles of its surface. Hidden from our telescopes are probably extensive cavities, underground tunnels and the like, probably connected with the visible cracks and craters. Could it be that Martians are already installed there? And that other Martians have already reached the earth and are conditioning themselves to our atmosphere in Antarctica?

Perhaps the Governments have known all this for some time. Perhaps we are being prepared gradually for the day when the visitors have physically conditioned themselves enough, and when we ourselves have got sufficiently conditioned mentally to the idea of receiving an alien race from Space to live amongst us without causing a world-wide panic.

One of the two theories discussed in this article may be the complete answer. Visitors from outer space may have occupied the moon and possibly Antarctica, because this planet may be in danger of tilting. Or they are here, probably from Mars, in search of a new home. In either case, the visitors are probably conditioning themselves to our atmosphere, and it is likely that some people in authority know when we are to be told the momentous news.

Is 1957, as Bender indicated, the year we are to know finally the answer to the greatest mystery of our times?

Rolf Alexander M.D.

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WERNER LAURIE

WHO'S WHO in flying saucer reports?

by Eric Aldwinckle

WHILE WE ARE SERIOUSLY INTERESTED in trying to solve the enigma of our day, intent upon constructive observation, we should not overlook our duty to question those contributors whose sincerity and observational ability we suspect. If we have an account of an experience, then we may reasonably inspect its validity.

Swedenborg was undoubtedly sincere. A respected scientist, he spent his later years in an Extra Sensory Perception expedition travelling the cosmos; visiting the planets and even Heaven and Hell; meeting live and dead planetarians and describing them all in great, if not circumlocutory, detail.

In his works, which are voluminous, one cannot escape noticing that all the beings he met on other planets were dressed in the European costume of his period and spoke either English or his own native language. In the various Heavens he visited, Chinese, South Americans, ancient Greek or Egyptian or, for that matter, anyone foreign to his " conception " of life in his day, were conspicuous by their absence.

So, too, with Adamski. His ideals are expressed in modern terms of costume, appearance and language idiom.

These points can be defended in so far as it is reasonable to suppose that any normal human being can only translate a new experience by describing it in terms with which he is familiar. In olden times the recently-discovered Dugong fish of New Zealand might have been described as a mermaid. A flying saucer a Thunderbird by an American Indian or as a Flaming Chariot Wheel by Greeks or Romans. A fish would surely see the focal point of a flashlight beam as an " unidentified fishy object."

To a modern, a large triangle of white floating in the sea would become either a sailing boat or an iceberg, depending upon the temperature or parallel in which it was seen. No human would dream that the white triangle was an advertising sign floating in the middle of the Atlantic, unless he had known first that this was a normal procedure. It could only be an iceberg or a sail.

I am not concerned here with questioning what Adamski or Allingham saw, or met. I question their accounts; and while I could write a book about them I will confine myself to a few terse observations.

While practically everyone interested in flying saucers exposed or defended George Adamski and Cedric Allingham, "Flying Saucer Review" maintained an attitude of aloofness influenced by the puzzle these two controversial gentlemen set. They are still a puzzle, but the author of this article adopts a novel approach that may assist readers to see Adamski and Allingham in their correct perspective.

We need not criticise Adamski's sincerity, or his views as expressed through other beings, and even in this world written for him by someone else. The views, the romance, the philosophy are charming and uplifting. They are noble in content if simple in expression, and naïvely beautiful if not as poetically inspiring as Dylan Thomas or William Blake. Even his photographs are convincing except for some unfortunate retouchings which would have been best left to an expert.

The points upon which these men should be questioned are the inconsistencies and flaws in their behaviour and of their words. Even my admired friend Desmond Leslie, who supported and prefaced Adamski's first account, completely ignores with his splendid intelligence questioning an enigma greater than the flying saucer itself. Why would one feel that, in setting out upon a deliberate hunt for flying saucers in the form of a picnic lunch, it was necessary to include a small bag of plaster of Paris " in case of any emergency," to use Adamski's own words. No band aids; no aspirins; no rugby helmets (all as reasonable as plaster, or more so), just sandwiches, water and plaster of Paris.

Four Silent Witnesses

I will not enlarge upon the obvious. It speaks for itself. It is the most serious of his flaws, but for some reason unknown to me I have yet to see mentioned as incongruous.

Secondly, it is impossible to believe that with four witnesses who signed affidavits (and two of them were women) could have restrained themselves from giving their own simple account in their own simple words of this momentous event. Four silent witnesses; American witnesses—and they are not renowned for their secretive qualities. We have heard no word from them. We have their affidavits which " do solemnly state." They do not solemnly " swear." Unfamiliar with American affidavits I do not know if these words are equivalent in their laws. However, in English language, they do not read equivalently.

This brings us to the third question: the art of miming. And as Adamski's is larded with telepathy I must move over to Cedric Allingham, who professes no such ability.

Allingham is a bird watcher and, like Adamski, met a man from a flying saucer in Scotland: but it came from Mars instead of Venus. By means of the difficult art of mime, limited to only the few in our human world, Mr. Allingham in the short space of an hour is able to ask questions and receive answers, without the help of telepathy, conveying nuances of the English language with ease.

Mr. Allingham had no natural fear of the visitor. There was in him no instinctive desire to mime *who are you* or *what do you want*, or what would have been more convincing to have stood still with his mouth wide open, saying nothing. No, Allingham, who *felt he had to ask all the questions, points up to the sky*. This is a good question. It could mean *isn't it a nice day?* but to Allingham it meant *did you come from there* (as if there was anywhere else he could come from) and is very shortly having a fully-packed conversation.

Paper and 'boomb

I would even question how much could have been successfully performed by Marcel Marceau, the great French mime, in this meeting, but Allingham not only rips right into canals, and worries about whether or not they have any water on Mars, but even indulges in miming such subtleties as " too " or " we."

Knowing little of speech, he describes the Martian as saying " Mars " in liquid tones. This is as possible as making the word *jagged* sound *smooth* and I would defy even Laurence Olivier to pronounce the word Mars in liquid tones, and I am sure he wouldn't try.

Allingham's best amateur performance comes when he illustrates the question *are you using atomic bombs* by tearing up bits of paper. Adamski had better luck by saying *boomb, boomb*. He was understood.

But with both of these romanticists there is the astonishing assumption that pantomimic gestures are universal. Gestures such as simple nods, shakes, and shrugs. This is ethnologically unsound. In America you shake hands; in France you kiss on both cheeks and in the Arctic you rub noses to convey the same meaning. We are expected to believe that an interplanetary visitor means yes by nodding, and no by shaking, and a

variety of easily-defined phrases by simply shrugging. Gesture is a language dependent upon social acceptance as much as is the word. No two societies in this world agree on all of them.

On this simple fact alone, these two stories fall down even in the simplest possible parts of their account where the conversation is *yes* or *no,* or even *I don't know,* which it appears can be illustrated by a shrug. In Allingham's case, this shrug was described neatly as *we don't care,* which is not only brilliant miming but brilliant reading.

"We" in Mime

I invite anyone to go to the jungles of South America and in half an hour with a tribe of aborigines express the word *we* in pantomime.

If this seems to be biased with primitive intelligence as the receiver, I invite you to approach any member of the United Nations and get a message over to him without words, and I will give you more than half an hour or an hour to convey to him the meaning of the word *we* meaning not *you and I* but *we, who are not in the United Nations.*

Lastly, in Adamski's glyphs dropped by film and engraved on shoes, in the history of calligraphy, which is many thousands of years, there is no evidence of any which have such lack of organisation. Even the mound dwellers' pictographs are more clear, and the as yet undeciphered Easter Island glyphs are evidence of a superior intelligence to the perpetrators of these glyphs.

In Adamski's second book, wherein he meets his friend again, who could speak English all the time but had a good reason for not doing so at their first meeting, he does not explain these glyphs.

However, Margaret Laugheed, an American mystic, psychic, finds them as easy as reading Pitman's shorthand; so we are no longer at a loss in spite of Adamski's secrecy. The message is extremely Churchward.

I haven't explored Angelluci yet. I expect more of the same. But I do think these people should be publicly put in their proper category by serious saucer students who are no less devoted than either of these three, if they are. They interfere with the problem and do not help it.

Messianic impulses

It is perfectly normal to dream and to have visions and messianic impulses, but it would be scientifically accurate and humanly more fair and honest if these people would say *gentlemen, I have had a dream, a vision, or an extra sensory experience connected with flying saucers which I believe to be significant* and let us go along from there. But don't present to us a *feeling* as a physical fact. By which I mean don't claim that a fourth dimensional concept is a three-dimensional one. And if you relate them, relate them with the same common sense that the imaginary second dimension exists in relation to the third dimension.

Adamski seems sincere. His ideas are loving, kind, and hopeful. They are not destructive. He wishes to be uplifting. He has goodwill, good wishes, and good intentions. Mentally and spiritually it is helpful, but it only confuses the scientific observation of phenomena, the evidence of which is an insult to the intellience, God given.

I am convinced that there is some portentious meaning behind this phenomena with all its ramifications, and I am the most wishful of thinkers, but I am equally convinced that Adamski and his ilk contribute nothing constructive towards the serious study of it, and do harm by presuming that it is Heaven on top of a mountain, and declaring it to be so because of psychic experience, or wishfulness.

Donald Keyhoe, who has just produced *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy,* while laced with "realistic" conversation and lighting cigarettes or sipping coffee, is at least a solid inspection of known facts as far as he can get them and is to my mind intriguing and inspiring in the enigmatic problem.

These men should be put in their proper category for interested neophytes, and in my opinion I relegate Keyhoe together with Leonard Cramp to serious enquiry supported by known facts.

I relegate Adamski to religious ecstasy supported by fervour, and Allingham to personal aggrandisement insufficiently supported by birds.

CURRENT EVENTS in the heavens

A Bi-monthly Review Of The Night-Sky

by W. Schroeder

THE COMING WEEKS bring us the "Bright Nights," so called because in the latitude of the British Isles the sun never goes sufficiently far below the horizon for the last traces of daylight to disappear completely. This will be particularly remarkable this year as the brightest of these nights, around June 21, are also illuminated by the light of the Full Moon.

These conditions are indicated by Fig. 1, and from this figure we can see that full darkness does not occur until the last few days of July.

Saucerphiles who want to extend their activities on the first of the International Flying Saucer Sighting Days, on June 30, until the hours of darkness, will find that it will be extremely difficult to detect self-luminous objects, even at midnight, and for really worthwhile night observations of u.f.o.s it would be best to wait until some later date. This, of course, applies only to countries in the latitude of the British Isles, as observers south of the Equator are now favoured by the long nights of their winter.

The sun presents readers in New Zealand with another eclipse on June 8, and those who want to observe it have to get up at sunrise, which is approximately the beginning of the time of the eclipse. Readers who still have the November-December issue of the "Review" will see that this eclipse was indicated, like many other celestial phenomena, on the yearly chart. On the day in question, the line representing the Moon's movement crosses the line of the Sun just after the Moon has crossed the line of her descending node. An eclipse which occurs while the Moon is exactly in the node will always be visible at the equator, and this eclipse, occurring after the descending node was passed, is naturally visible in parts of the globe south of the Equator.

The Planets

Mercury, which is always difficult to observe, may be seen in the vicinity of the Pleiades around June 12 just before sunrise from stations south of the Equator, but will be too close to the Sun at other times, and is unobservable from other parts of the globe as it gradually approaches the Sun and passes on the far side of the Sun some time in the middle of July.

Venus is still the brightest object in the sky, reaching her greatest brilliance early in June before overtaking the Earth and thereby passing between us and the Sun, towards the end of June. On that day, only 25 million miles separate us from Venus, which is only about half the distance of the average nearest approach of Mars. At the beginning of the month Venus sets about two hours after the Sun, but this interval diminishes from day to day.

Mars is visible only in the morning sky, and does not rise until after midnight, but its brightness gradually increases in preparation for the opposition in September. The Red Planet is a striking object in the constellation Watercarrier, where its colour and brightness contrasts with the surroundings which consist of only rather faint stars.

Jupiter is still in the immediate vicinity of the bright star Regulus in the Lion, but its light becomes dimmer from week to week as the Earth recedes from the planet. At the beginning of June, Jupiter sets about five hours after the Sun, but at the end of July it will be less than two hours.

Saturn, which is visible deep in the southern sky in the constellation Scorpion, is also gradually diminishing in brightness, although this may

With this article W. Schroeder, whose book "Practical Astronomy" is reviewed on page 27, concludes a popular series in which he has described the behaviour of the heavens over the past 12 months. Readers who have kept the last six issues of "Flying Saucer Review" will be able to follow the stars throughout the coming year. The planets, of course, will not conform.

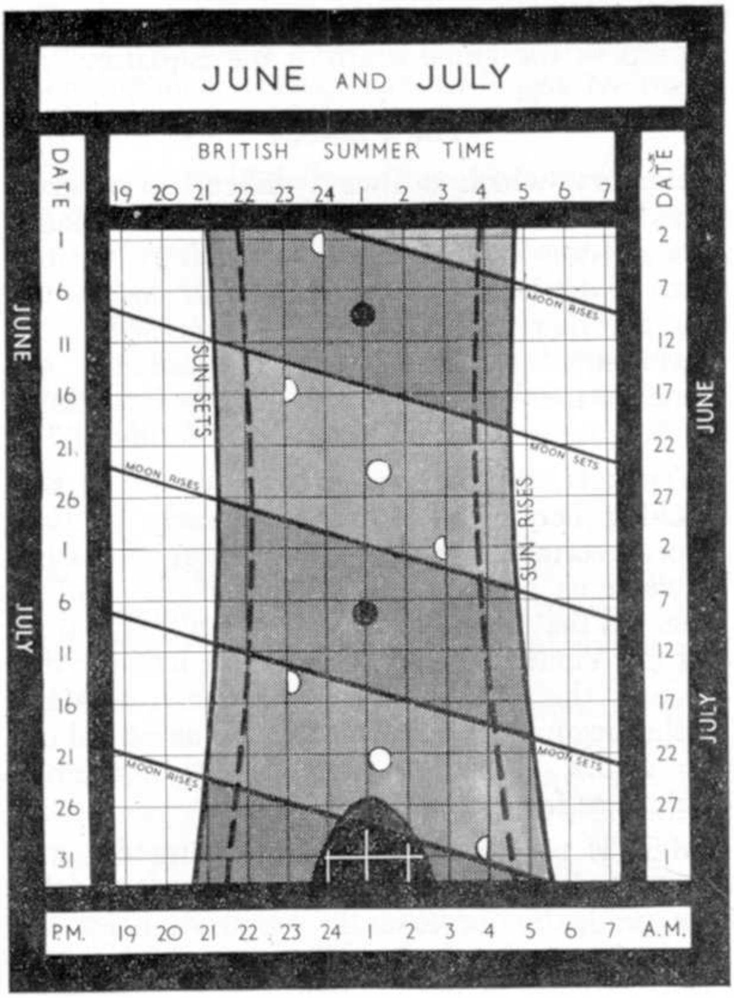

Fig. 1. Times of Sunrise, Sunset, Moonrise, Moonset and Twilight during June and July.

not be very noticeable at first, as the planet has only just passed its opposition. With its dull, leaden colour, the planet will be in strange contrast with the bright red Antares nearby.

The Vagabonds of the Sky

The various meteor showers occurring during the next two months are quite spectacular and provide a variety of different kinds, although observing conditions from the latitudes of the British Isles are not very favourable. During the first two weeks of June it should be possible to see some of a shower which radiates from a point in the constellation Scorpion. These move very slowly, and in many cases turn out to be fireballs, which can on occasion be heard exploding.

During the last two or three days of June another group of very slow-moving meteors radiates from the Dragon; and particularly bright, but also slow, are the meteors from Capricorn (The Goat) during the latter half of July.

It should also be possible to see a few of the shower coming from the Swan, single members of which occur during the whole of July. These are particularly swift-moving objects, and another radiant in the Dragon emits very slow meteors during the whole of June and July; the latter usually displaying a " tail " which persists for a few seconds.

The Fixed Stars

The eastern half of the sky is now dominated by the Summer Triangle, consisting of Vega, Deneb and Altair, the brightest stars of the constellations Lyre, Swan and Eagle. This configuration is all the more remarkable as the remainder of this half of the firmament is occupied by comparatively faint stars only, although it is the Milky Way which brightens things up a little here. Only near the northern horizon are a few more bright stars belonging to the constellations Cassiopeia, Andromeda and Perseus, but more

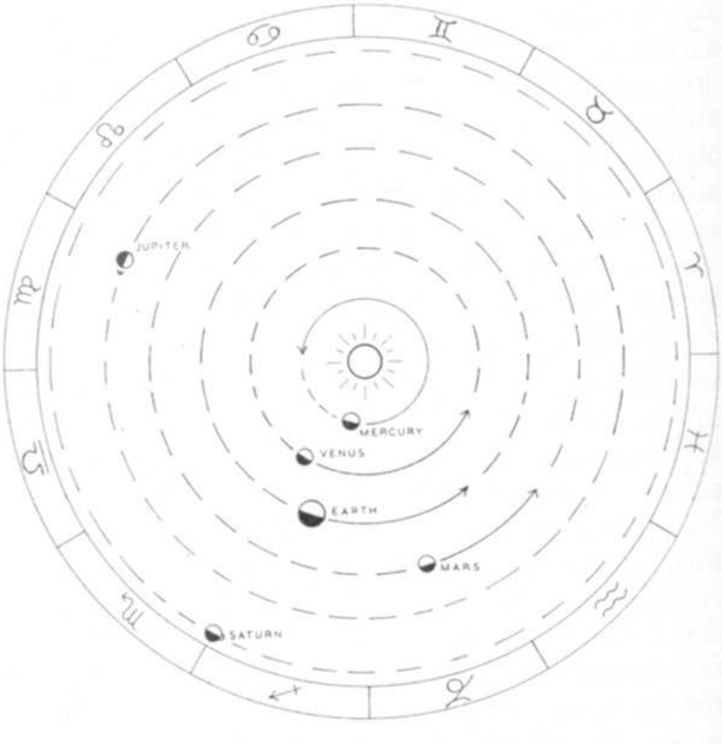

Fig. 2. Positions of the planets relative to the fixed stars on June 1, and their movements during the following two months.

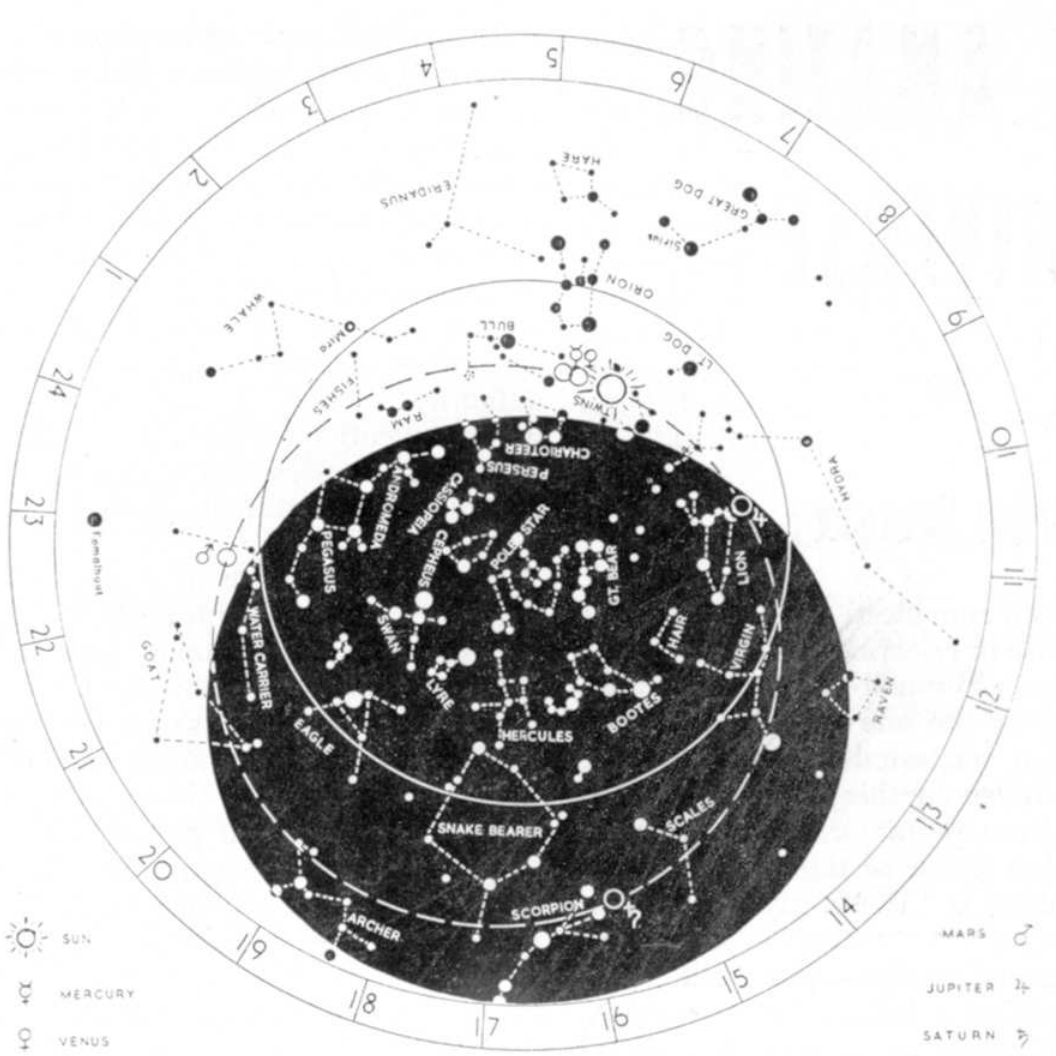

Fig. 3. The aspect of the Night Sky on July 1, 11 p.m. British Summer Time.

likely than not, these will be hidden by the haze which usually dulls the light of the stars which are near the horizon.

The Milky Way is particularly prominent now, and especially the most striking parts of it, near the Eagle and south of it, can now be seen better than at any other time of the year. *Anyone with a pair of binoculars or even opera glasses should have a look over these regions of the sky, the grandeur of which becomes apparent with the slightest optical aid.*

The western half of the sky presents an entirely different aspect. No Milky Way brightens up the background here, and as compared with the eastern half, the stars here seem to be fixed to a velvety backcloth, making them stand out all the clearer and more brilliant.

Almost on the horizon we find the Lion, with Jupiter near Regulus, and more towards the left is the Virgin with the bright Spica. Above the two are the faint stars of Berenice's Hair, which, on a clear and dark night, really look like a few whisps of hair drifting across the sky.

In its present position, high up in the north-west, the Great Bear looks rather unfamiliar, while more to the left, and rather higher in the sky, we find Bootes and the Crown. Lower down, between the Virgin and the Scorpion, are the three stars of the Scales, the uppermost of which is remarkable on account of its greenish colour. It is not particularly bright, but it is the only star visible to the naked eye which is of this particular colour, and it has the unusual sounding name Zuben eschamali, meaning "The Northern Claw," as the Arabs used to regard this constellation as part of the Scorpion.

THIS AMAZING UNIVERSE

by

Arthur Constance

I HAVE long been convinced that the ordinary man's acceptance or rejection of any statement is not determined so much by what is said as by the personality of the one who says it. Very few statements can be tested by ordinary folk like you and me. When anything is said, whether in conversation, from pulpit or platform, or in print, the natural reaction of the average mind (spoken or unspoken) is "Who's saying it?" Try to imagine a newspaper or magazine filled with unsigned, anonymous articles—who would read them? Try to imagine a lecture by a nameless speaker—it might serve as a stunt, but could never be common practice. "Who's saying it?" is the dominant factor, determining the acceptance of "what's being said."

Amen

I can imagine the case for the u.f.o.s as proven "scientifically" (whatever that means)—accepted, established, pigeonholed as orthodox by the world's "authorities" (whoever they are) if only it were presented by enough Somebodies. Folks may not understand a word that Einstein says, but *if Einstein says it* it must be true. I do not suggest that anything that Einstein says (timelessly, for he is immortal) is *not* true. I do say that if many of the things that Einstein said had been said by anybody else nobody on earth would have believed them. This dominance of the *person speaking* rather than the *thing spoken* is not always a bad thing—it works in practice. Despite Schopenhauer's advice—"Do your own thinking"—most people like their thinking done for them. But shepherds can lead their trusting sheep to the slaughterhouse, as well as to green pastures.

An astronomer of repute peers through his telescope and sees something. If his account of what he sees is in agreement with the account of orthodox scientists it is accepted. He may be deceived. He may be seeing something that does not in any way fit in with conventional theories, so that (to reconcile it with his own orthodox conceptions of reality) he does not tell the truth in his account of the phenomenon. But his account is accepted: First, because he is an authority; second, because what he says fits in with conventional astronomy. Note that he may have no witnesses—he is just an astronomer of repute making a statement which will be believed because he says it.

Now take the case of someone who is not a notability or an "authority"—he is just an honest-to-goodness human being. He may be characterised by his honesty and goodness, but he is a nobody all the same. He peers through a telescope, or looks at the sky without one. He sees something. He has no theory or hypothesis in his head—no pre-existent pattern into which he will try to fit the phenomenon he observes. He just *sees* it, does not attempt to explain it, gives a truthful account of what he saw. Who is going to believe him? If he sees something inexplicable by conventional science, something which he cannot explain and which in his honesty he makes no attempt to explain, he is either a liar or a fool, suffering from hallucinations. Now let us suppose that (unlike our hypothetical astronomer) he has witnesses—plenty of them. The first thing the newspapers will want to know is "Was there an authority among the witnesses?" It will not matter if ten, twenty or fifty Smiths, Browns and Robinsons saw something inexplicable to conventional science: the incident will be explained as mass-hallucination, mass-hysteria, or Massachusetts (by which I mean: "Oh, of course, another of those things that are supposed to happen in America").

Rock Salt

A crowd of observers is not enough. A town's population is not enough. (You will recall cases where "flying saucers" have been seen by thousands—over some of the world's cities—over Indianapolis, as a classical example.) I often wonder how many authorities Science requires, before it can accept phenomena as "real" and "genuine"? I doubt if *one* Einstein in a crowd of observers would be enough. If he had no

fellow witnesses it might be—but if he was but one of many witnesses, and the others were just ordinary folk, then his testimony might lose its potency, even as salt loses its pungency when dissolved in water. Most of the evidence for "flying saucers" is mildly saline—watered down by ordinary folk. It seems to me that Science is demanding a mountain of rock salt as a condition of acceptance of the facts.

As I contemplate this strange phenomenon—the obdurate blindness of orthodox Science to the plain, positive evidence for the existence of non-terrestrial intelligences—I become more and more convinced that the mere repetition of evidence tends to destroy its value. Constant dripping may wear away a stone if it is a case of Mrs. Stone's little boy growing tired of a monotonous succession of slices of bread smeared with grease that has dropped from roasting meat—but the proverb has no application to "saucer" sightings.

It's lovely when it stops

Whenever I open a new book on the u.f.o.s I feel a sinking in the pit of my stomach, anticipating repetitional evidence. This does not mean that I am inappreciative of the evidential value of the classical "saucer" incidents—it is just that I sympathise with the world's Menzels and Woolleys, who are in one respect in the position of the lunatic seen by a prowling attendant who happened to peep through the observation hole in the door of his padded cell. The lunatic was banging his head repeatedly against the wall—not that he could injure himself, but there he was: thud, thud, thud. The attendant went in and asked him why he did it. The lunatic said: "It's so lovely when it stops." I think the Menzels and Woolleys of the world must feel like that when they pick up a "saucer" book and find that it makes no reference to some sighting or other that has grown whiskers as long as Rip Van Winkle's, but won't go to sleep.

It may be the fault of those who write up the repetitional evidence. Perhaps it needs presenting from new angles. But is there any need to refer again and again to evidence which is so conclusive that it should have convinced the most hardened sceptic at the time it happened? Take the case of the B.O.A.C. Stratocruiser *Centaurus*, of June 29, 1954, for instance. There you have an incident which "has everything." Plenty of unimpeachable witnesses—the salinity of the evidence was nearly 100 per cent. There was the mother-ship, which changed shape—there were the discs, released from it. No loopholes for the sceptics. No explanation—unless Howard, Boyd, the stewardesses and the passengers were all raving mad or brazen liars. That case—and it is but one of the classics—should have convinced the world. But the Menzels and Woolleys shut their eyes, screwed their fingers in their ears and tilted their noses. What had happened could not possibly happen, so it *didn't* happen, and that was that.

Need for new approach

Since 1954: drip, drip, drip—and all that has resulted has not been a wearing away of the incredulity-stone, but stalactite and stalagmite formations upon it, so that it is thicker than ever.

But it may be, as I have hinted, that it is not the repetition that is at fault, but the *kind* of repetition. As with the Bible itself, it may be that familiarity breeds contempt—and the parallel may also apply when I suggest that truth continually needs re-presenting in new ways, to meet ever-changing conditions. I should like to see a world conference of u.f.o. researchers, willing to survey the evidence and discuss new ways of presenting it. Surveying most "saucer" publications now current, and (to spare your editor's blushes) excluding F.S.R. from my survey, I feel that Meade Lane and his Borderland Sciences Research Associates have the right attitude. In the publications that they issue, from San Diego, California, they do not repeat sightings—unless it is to stress some new angle, or reveal new evidence. They take the question of the u.f.o.s, and all associated questions, seriously. There is no cartooning, no joking about them—no silly drawings. They realise, as I do, that it is bad enough to have to fight the light-hearted ridicule which the unfortunate phrase "flying saucers" has always attracted to our investigations, without making ourselves even *more* ridiculous. I agree with Meade Layne that the problem of the u.f.o.s lies in the ultra-dimensional field, rather than in terms of our three-dimensional world. But that does not mean that either he or I are prejudiced towards "psychic" explanations. It does mean, however, that such explanations—and the mass of data that is "coming through" mediums—needs serious investigation. I have indicated

Meade Layne's viewpoint because I feel that it is the sanest, and most likely to produce results. Summarising it: (1) Avoiding repetition of sightings unless there is something fresh to say, or some new angle. (2) Taking the u.f.o.s seriously —for the fate of mankind may well depend on them. (3) Examining all evidence with an open mind, and realising that any approach to the solution of the problem may well lie in ultra-dimensional fields, dismissing conventional time-space conceptions.

Unconventional, but right

In our "propaganda" for the u.f.o.s—if you will please forgive the term, as the only one applicable—we need not be depressed by the conventional scientists' emphasis on "authority." The long history of humanity abounds with instances of pioneers who have been right and the "authorities" wrong, while their ideas were unconventional—and whose ideas, and the credit for them, have been quietly taken over by orthodox Science with the passing of the years. We must not be surprised, in a few years time, to read articles in the Press giving Menzel and Woolley the honour of having been among the first to investigate the u.f.o.s, with "I told you so" implications regarding their reality. Meanwhile, if we are to get anywhere, we should explore new avenues and change our methods of presenting the evidence. We should insist on a reversal of the universally-held belief that "Who says it" is more important than "What is said." The nature of the evidence is the important thing—its consistency, its relationship with other evidence, its contribution to the best possible explanation. The integrity of the observer is but one factor in any calculation of the value of evidence. Nor is it an infallible factor. A man of integrity may have prejudices, or he may be ignorant of the phenomena he observes. An astronomer is not necessarily an authority on u.f.o.s. A man of doubtful integrity may be telling the truth. *Evidence must be considered without prejudice: for or against the observer, or for or against any particular theory.* I have tried to define the nature and value of evidence because I want to examine the real evidential value of a field of u.f.o. research which is often misunderstood—the field of psychic communication. Make no mistake: I am not expressing my belief that intelligences from other dimensions or worlds are communicating with us, nor am I expressing disbelief. I simply want to define the evidential value of such messages. I will do my best to answer such questions as, "Is it just a choice between blind credulity and scepticism?" and "Is it possible to subject the statements of mediums to unprejudiced critical investigation, with any hope of contributing to our knowledge of the u.f.o.s?"

I have investigated phenomena inexplicable by conventional science for thirty years. My library and news-cutting files have grown to formidable proportions in the course of my investigations. Quite naturally, psychic phenomena have always interested me. I was a member of the British College of Psychic Science and other societies for some years before the last war, and had numerous sittings with mediums. This does not mean that I was gullible: I investigated impartially and my stenographer made verbatim reports. After discounting self-deception, deliberate deception by fake mediums, telepathy, coincidence, and all other possible explanations, there remains a percentage of evidence which cannot be explained by conventional science. That percentage interests me. I am neither dogmatic nor sceptical about it. I believe it links up with other fields of research—particularly parapsychological fields.

Newbrough's Bible

What I have written has been necessary by way of introduction to my next article, in which I want to analyse the evidential values of one of the most remarkable books ever published. You have probably heard of it, and may have read it. It is *OAHSPE*—described as "A Kosmon Bible" —and the claim is made for it that it was communicated to the world through a man named J. B. Newbrough in 1881. Newbrough stated that he used a typewriter and that his hands were controlled by discarnate intelligences. If indeed, as Newbrough claimed, the book was dictated in that way over a period of 50 weeks, it was a stupendous feat of mediumship. But whether it came to being like that, or was written in the ordinary way over years of research matters little to me. Remember what I have written in earlier paragraphs: We should examine "what is said" without prejudice for or against "who said it." We must take all factors into account—*the personality of the speaker or writer is only one of them.*

WORLD ROUNDUP

Two teachers reported a " strange object," seen in the night sky, to the Royal Astronomical Society in April. Both the men—Mr. Eric Saunders, a Slough lecturer, and his host in Poole, Dorset, Mr. John Foster—are slightly sceptical of flying saucers, but they say the object was " definitely no illusion."

They watched a blob of light move swiftly across the sky; it was " a point of steady white light with a luminous tail," said Mr. Saunders. They watched it for about six or seven seconds. There was no noise, and the estimated speed was about 2,000 m.p.h. It was " nothing like a meteorite or jet plane."

In the brief time they saw it, the object described a 130-degree arc across the sky.

Altogether five people in the Bournemouth area reported the u.f.o. and all were convinced it was not a shooting star.

One of them, Mr. King, who lives in the Hengistbury Head area, said he went outside because his dog was barking. Then he saw the bright light with a luminous tail travelling steadily across the sky at tremendous speed.

Another was Miss P. Burns, of Branksome Park, who was garaging her car at 11.30 p.m. " It was such a lovely night that I stood looking at the sky for a short while," she said. " Then I saw something flying absolutely straight across the sky. It looked like a flying sword."

" I had a good view of it and I am certain it was not a shooting star because it did not fizzle out, nor did it drop towards the earth. It was still flying straight as it disappeared over the trees towards the sea," she added.

★ ★ ★

A circular object, diameter 18 *inches,* was seen over Trinidad in December last year. Three men travelling from Port-of-Spain to Toco saw " an elliptical object, illuminated and flying at a considerable altitude." Afterwards they told the Sangre Grande police they thought the object was a flying saucer.

A cigar-shaped object was seen over Ludhiana, India, in February, and watched by thousands of people. The object left a trail of smoke, and made a 20-minute irregular flight over the city, then disappeared in the direction it had come from.

A similar object was seen in the sky over Chandigarh, flying at great speed towards the south-east.

★ ★ ★

Sixteen-year-old Cambridge schoolgirl Carol Peck is convinced she saw a flying saucer last April.

She spotted the object at dusk when she was with three other girls. She was at her home in Impington and, with the other girls, she saw a bright object approaching from the Milton direction.

" I stood watching it for about a minute. I could hardly believe my eyes. The saucer came at us at a very fast rate and then disappeared back in the direction it had come from. There were little windows all round it but we could not see anything inside it."

Carol rejected the suggestions that it could have been the reflection of a weather balloon or aircraft—or the airborne elephant from Bertram Mills' circus straying a little off course!

★ ★ ★

A " *ball of fire* " was seen moving across the sky over Ipswich in March. One observer, Mr. Charles Bond, said it had " black smoke billowing from it."

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WORLD ROUNDUP (continued)

A "*star of enormous size* and brilliance, surrounded by a halo of light," was seen over Hartley, Rhodesia, in March. A man and wife saw the "star" for half an hour in an evening sky. It seemed to be stationary for a while, then altered shape continually as it "manœuvred about" and moved away to the west.

The observers claimed that "the brighter the central part of the object glowed, the dimmer the halo became, and when the halo brightened the central part dimmed."

The halo of light seemed to be about the size of a football and had about 10 times the brilliance of an ordinary star. At times it was shaped like a perfect five-pointed star.

★ ★ ★

Five u.f.o.s were seen in Peru last February. They were watched for 80 seconds by four Peruvians in Arequipa. It was the first time in many months that flying saucers had been seen in Peru, writes Alejandro de la Jara, FLYING SAUCER REVIEW's Peruvian correspondent.

Then came stories of a sighting in March and another in April. The first was reported by an engineer and his chauffeur. It was a large, bluish-white, silent sphere travelling at tremendous speed. It was about 1,000 metres up and visible for about 10 seconds before it disappeared in the distance. Viewing conditions were good; it was a moonlit night.

The April sighting was again over Arequipa. It was a cigar-like object, spotted by four citizens in different parts of the town. All agreed that it appeared towards the north, travelled slowly to the centre of the city where it hovered for between three and five minutes, then made off at a leisurely pace towards the west, where it disappeared between clouds.

The witnesses described the object as having bright silvery sections along its sides and a blue aura round one end. The sky was slightly overcast, but a moon was shining.

Two smoking objects were seen by a baker's roundsman in Shoreham, Sussex, in April. They were circular and had smoke or vapour coming from the top and bottom of them.

Mr. Ernie Batson saw them as he was talking to a customer. He looked up and saw the objects moving at speed over the Downs. They were black and "not like flying saucers, but solid spheres." They were flying close together when he first spotted them, then they separated and were lost to view.

An elongated oval, bright orange red in colour, was seen in the night sky last February by a man at Melbourn, near Royston, Herts. Mr. B. F. Hirons said the object was travelling at a fast speed in a northerly direction, leaving a trail of smoke or vapour behind it. It was "possibly a flying saucer."

★ ★ ★

A veteran airlines pilot from Buffalo, U.S.A., told of chasing "something fantastic" through New York skies last April. Capt. Raymond E. Ryan, a pilot for 23 years, said he followed a bright light from Schenectady to Oswego but could not catch it.

"The light was so bright you wouldn't want to look at it," Capt. Ryan said. "I've read about flying saucers, and I'm the type of fellow that—well, you've got to show me. But I'm convinced there was something fantastic up there."

★ ★ ★

Strange light over Hong Kong was the subject of a letter to the editor of the *South China Morning Post* newspaper in November, 1955.

The writer of the letter claimed that he and a friend had seen the light over Lyemum Pass. It appeared to remain stationary until a Meteor Jet took off from Kai Tak airfield and flew towards it, seemingly in pursuit. Then the object gradually disappeared in a westward direction. During

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WORLD ROUNDUP (continued)

the time it was observed, the "light" kept changing shape from a "bulging line" to a disc, and back again. It was surrounded by a luminous halo, and the light varied in intensity.

"Sky Gazer," as he signed himself, said he was surprised he had not seen a report about the object in any of the newspapers. An editorial note dismissed his story with the suggestion that the object was a meteorological balloon. An enquiry for more information brought the following additional facts:

The morning was bright with a few clouds and a slight easterly wind. The light travelled against the wind and appeared to be intelligently controlled. It was at a height of about 2,000 feet.

★ ★ ★

Air passengers and a pilot in Thailand saw a strange and puzzling light in the sky in November last year. The object shone bright and then dim like a pulsating light while flying in an up-and-down manner. It travelled in the same direction as the plane for about one hour, then disappeared suddenly.

The pilot (Thai Airways Company) sent an enquiry by radio to the Air Traffic Centre about the light and received a reply to say that there were no planes in the vicinity.

★ ★ ★

A mysterious round object was reported by four different people over Durban early in March. The object, said to be about 50 feet in diameter, hovered over the Bluff and then made off towards North Durban at a tremendous speed.

Describing it, one of the people who reported it said it was an orange-red colour and that it glowed. It was shaped like a yo-yo and had windows from which a reddish light shone.

After hovering over Durban North for a few minutes the object flew out to sea and disappeared.

★ ★ ★

Adding weight to the fact that u.f.o.s were around long before Kenneth Arnold saw his formation in 1947 is an account sent to a well-known British astronomer by Mrs. Eva Charlotte Roston, of Johannesburg, South Africa.

A German by birth, Mrs. Roston lived in Berlin in a top-floor apartment next to the old Admiralty and what was under Hitler, the War Ministry as well.

It was an airy flat and the balcony commanded a magnificent view of the city and the sky.

In 1915 Mrs. Roston was working for an organisation looking after the families of conscripted men and because of the shortage of labour she had for a time to take work home to finish after office hours. Usually she worked on until midnight and in good weather on the balcony.

"Being a nobody, I cannot expect to be believed," she wrote. "But although she may not remember, my sister, who now lives in New York, witnessed the phenomenon, too."

"At 9.10 one evening—I remember checking my wrist watch—I heard a hiss. Turning round I saw, apparently between the balcony and the Reichstag, a contraption glowing a soft red—about the colour of a red neon light, but much softer.

"Amazed, I pointed it out to my sister, but she was not impressed and went on reading.

"The shape was familiar to me because of the Zeppelins I had seen. But there was one distinct difference: no dark wallspaces showed between the windows like in a Zeppelin. The whole thing glowed an even, shadowless dull red.

"I couldn't stop working, but every now and then I turned round to look at this odd machine. After an hour and ten minutes—again I timed it

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WORLD ROUNDUP (continued)

immediately—I heard another hiss. I turned round, but there was nothing there.

"The fact that I had to turn round seems proof to me that I really did hear a hiss and did not imagine a sound or a coloured object. The nearest I can get to the date is between July 15 and August 15, the period when I had so much work on my hands.

"I could not say at what height this phenomenon was, for I am an idiot when it comes to mathematics or estimated measurements. Nor do I understand technicalities, since none of my family ever had such interests and I had therefore never heard of such things.

"That is why we were so completely dumb to the incredible fact that a flying apparatus stood stockstill in mid-air for over an hour and appeared and disappeared 'just so' practically noiselessly except for a hiss and within a few seconds.

★ ★ ★

On the evening of May 23 a strange silvery object was seen over Kelbrook village, near Colne, Lancashire, by a FLYING SAUCER REVIEW reader. Reporting the sighting, he said: "I was watching a curlew through my binoculars when I saw the object. Round and rather like a saucer in shape, it appeared to be flying at about 25,000 feet.

"My observation lasted about five minutes. For two minutes it went slowly towards the south-west, shining brilliantly. It then went dull and appeared to stop for a minute; then it moved on and disappeared in the haze.

"There was no sound and there were no aeroplanes in the vicinity at the time of the sighting," he added.

Describing the conditions, the reader said there was a long belt of cirrus cloud in the sky stretching from north to south. These clouds are usually found at 25,000 feet and above. He said he could not make out whether the object was above this thin layer or below.

It is doubtful whether the very definite saucer shape, the hump in the middle and other detail, would have been apparent had the object been above the cloud layer, even though cirrus is usually pretty thin.

Concluded our reader wistfully: "I suppose there may be a chance of it having been a weather research balloon."

★ ★ ★

I was looking at the moon at 7.10 p.m. on April 19, writes Lt.-Col. G. Spottiswoode, of Bournemouth, when I saw what seemed to be a very bright orange-coloured star quite close to it.

Since the sun had hardly set and the sky was quite light and clear, I was wondering how it could possibly be a star, when it started moving rapidly towards the north-east. At the same time it somewhat changed its shape and colour; the former becoming elongated into two conjoined ovals with a bright dot in the centre of each and appearing whiter with hazy edges.

I followed the course of the object for about 15 seconds before it disappeared. It was absolutely silent and there was no trace of a vapour trail. While stationary near the moon the object had the appearance of a bright sphere similar to those shown in plate 1 of Adamski's *Inside the Spaceships*.

Other Publications

ALWAYS full of interesting reading matter is Civilian Saucer Investigation of New Zealand's *Flying Saucers*, which we accidentally overlooked in our Guide to World Ufology.

Run by Harold Fulton, C.S.I. has been keeping the New Zealanders well on their toes with good provocative work and masses of information in its quarterly magazine. You can get it from C.S.I. Headquarters, 1 Nissan Place, Onehunga, S.E.5, Auckland, New Zealand. Subscription: 10s. in New Zealand; 11s. overseas ($1.50 in U.S.A.).

Another saucer periodical overlooked in the Ufology was *Weltraumbote*, edited by J. Heinrich Ragaz, of Seestrasse 309, Zurich, Switzerland. A printed periodical, it costs 80 Swiss cents a copy.

Recommended saucer publications: Leonard Stingfield's *Orbit* from C.R.I.F.O., 7017 Britton Avenue, Cincinatti 27, Ohio, and Max B. Miller's *Saucers*, obtainable from Flying Saucers International, P.O. Box 35034, Los Angeles 35, California, U.S.A.

SELECTED BOOKS

Reviewed by

The Hon. Brinsley le Poer Trench

THEY KNEW TOO MUCH ABOUT FLYING SAUCERS, by Gray Barker. (University Books, New York, $3.50.)

This book is not written as fiction, but is a real thriller. I started to read it in bed late one night and couldn't put it down. If you are inclined to be a nervous type, then I would advise you not to read it just before going to sleep. If you do not take this advice, then you will most certainly be making sure that your bedroom door is locked and looking under your bed before turning out the light.

Mr. Barker is an American businessman, operating a theatrical film buying and booking firm. In his spare time he edits *The Saucerian Bulletin* and an annual, *The Saucerian Review*. However, at one time he was Chief Investigator for the International Flying Saucer Bureau of Bridgeport, Connecticut. It has been common knowledge for some years that Al Bender, the head of that organisation, was visited by "*three men in black suits,*" who closed down his group and effectually silenced him in regard to flying saucers.

Gray Barker, in this exciting book, lifts the lid off this mysterious affair and reveals some strange facts for the first time. He relates how other civilian saucer organisations throughout the world, including an Australian one, have had similar visits from the gentlemen in black. They, too, have been closed down and frightened into silence, after getting close to the answer.

Mr. Barker strongly suggests that terrestrial governments may not be responsible for these drastic actions. Some fantastic theories are advanced to account for these visitations. If only half of what is written in this book is true, then there really is a very strange pattern revealed, and an unusual force at work.

Is this just a cloak-and-dagger romance, or do the events related really prove that Truth is stranger than Fiction?

You can read this book solely as a pure thriller, or study it in a more serious vein as a possible lead to the solution of the saucer enigma. Either way, it is most readable.

★ ★ ★

PRACTICAL ASTRONOMY, by W. Schroeder. (T. Werner Laurie, London, 25s.)

Those readers who have enjoyed the author's stimulating bi-monthly reviews of the night sky in FLYING SAUCER REVIEW will find it more than worth while to have this book on their shelves.

This is a beautifully-illustrated work containing 17 excellent plates, together with numerous figures, maps and diagrams.

Mr. Schroeder has written, as the title implies, an extremely practical book. He shows that astronomy is not to be indulged in by its devotees only on fine evenings when "seeing" is good, but that there are many fascinating problems which can be tackled with ruler and compasses on a wet night, ensconced in their own homes.

However, the author regards his subject with an even wider vision. Let me quote him.

"Astronomy," Mr. Schroeder writes, "is something more than a mapping of the firmament and the recording of stellar and planetary movements."

"He who never raised his eyes, be it in mere admiration or in search for knowledge, to the depths of star-studded space lacks an important link in the chain which connects him with the

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world around him. For the use of astronomy is not merely that it enables us to put our clocks right or sail our ships across the oceans, but that it broadens our mental horizon, and thus provides us with the fundamentals of a more comprehensive conception of life and of the world in which we live."

★ ★ ★

THE SAUCERIAN REVIEW, edited by Gray Barker, Box 2228, Clarksburg, W. Va., U.S.A. $1.50.

This is a 100-page annual review of the important saucer events of 1955. It is profusely illustrated and packed full of interest. There are articles by saucer authors, M. K. Jessup and George Adamski, and an extremely interesting one by Laimon A. Mitris about the Canadian saucer sighting station run by Wilbur B. Smith.

There is something in this Review to suit every type of saucer taste, whether it be conservative or lunatic fringe. A fabulous cast struts across the pages of this book: Venusians, Abominable Snowmen, Monsters, Poltergeists, Bridey Murphy, Project Bluebook, Burrowing Garden Hoses, and Prophecies of Doom. You can take your choice.

MAIL BAG

A Whole in the Infinite

Sir,

I have read with much interest the letters received in your Mail Bag (March-April, 1956—Vol. 2, No. 2). In my book, which you were kind enough to review in your Journal (November-December, 1955—Vol. 1, No. 5), I explain that whilst a universe is finite, it is in all probability only one of many in Infinite Space. That is to say, a universe is a tensioning to a generative centre in Infinite Space, brought about by the Thought-force of the All-Consciousness, the only Creative-force. Thus, a universe is conscious-physical, and the space within it being tensioned to the Generative centre, has *texture*—the Creative-ether; the material, the only material available, from which celestial bodies can be formed. The functioning of the cosmos is explained at length in " The Physics of the Primary State of Matter."

Meantime, to sum up: a universe is a finite conscious-physical functioning unit, in Infinite Space.

One of your correspondents suggests that one day we may be able to move about in time just as we do now in space. Do we not actually move about in relative stimulated space, and measure our movement by relative time?

We shall never be able to move about in time itself, because—irrespective of anything we do, or can do, about it—Time moves through us.

Time is not merely a factor in the measurement of motion. I suggest that defining something by what it does, or worse still by how we use it, is a long way from defining what it is!

CYRIL W. DAVSON,
London.

False Prophets

Sir,

Further to my last letter on Monseigneur Otto Viking's article, " Religion and Flying Saucers," where I commended this writer on his Liberal Catholicism, I would like now to compliment him on a noteworthy attempt to define the noun, Mystic.

I can agree with Mgr. Viking that an Adept may well be able to attain " at-one-ness " with " God." I hesitate, however, to agree that Gnostics, particularly those of the last two hundred years, are so much concerned with " God " as with the duality of Good *and* Evil. Here I cannot suppress a smile at the thought of some of the " Gnostics " of the last half-century and, for mostly Theological reasons, the memory of the Marcionites and Manichees—who were also possessed of Gnosis—none of whom would seem to me to be exactly commendable to one such as Mgr. Viking. The suggestion that a Mystic could ever be a Theosophist is almost as ludicrous as a suggestion that a Theosophist could be considered to be, at any time, a Mystic.

In terms of " Occult " proficiency, Mgr. Viking's three " definitions " are analagous to the relative standards of " education " which might be said to exist in a comparison of a Professor of Philosophy, a Sunday-school dominie, and one of the more backward pupils in the latter's class.

Owing to an unfortunate omission* in paragraph 5 of my last letter, dealing with the separativeness or otherwise of God, I see that my meaning has been reversed completely. I had, of course, intended to state that " God does NOT exist, as seems to be believed by so many of us, as an entity in Himself." The omission of the operative " not " seems to have lent Mgr. Viking the very excusable impression that I, too, subscribe to this theory. In actual fact I am inclined to agree with Voltaire's observation, " If God did not exist, it would be necessary to invent Him," but, unlike Voltaire, I cannot see any real necessity for so many people to " invent " an abstract quality which already they possess, as Mgr. Viking intimates, within themselves.

Neither Mgr. Viking's convictions about " God " nor my own have any real bearing on the question of " Religion." I think that we are agreed that this " God " is something *within* ourselves and, so being, I would sug-

[* *Deepest apologies—Ed.*]

gest that it is totally unnecessary for any self-awakened human being to resort to "religiousity" in any *outward* form. This, I feel, is where habit and the wrong variety of teaching has caused so much unnecessary and unwarranted mischief. The hangover of this variety of misleading teaching is just that which I find so distasteful in this Flying Saucer "cult."

Why, other perhaps than to satisfy a handful of self-appointed Saucer-Messiahs, should normally analytical and intelligent people be obliged to suffer the variety of quasi-occult and pseudo-mystical balderdash that has culminated in the recent claim by one of the least analytical "Saucery" groups that they have succeeded in recording the voice of *Jesus*? I feel that Mgr. Viking will agree that there is very little in this that is either "occult" or Mystical. Perhaps he will agree also that it bears out the Biblical prophesy:

"For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders: insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect."

I should like to know Monseigneur Viking's reaction to this alleged tape-recording of the voice of the Master Jesus and also his opinion of those capable of believing that this has been done.

JOHN PITT,
Surbiton.

Years of Consciousness

Sir,

Your Mail Bag indicates that U.F.O. phenomena are causing us all furiously to think, and to good effect. Further to several very interesting letters in your last issue, it would seem that the boundaries of a space-time-matter containum, or world, and, in the case of our own physical world, are merely the boundaries of the human consciousness *at this time.* Einstein's "Finite Universe" is the recognition of this fact. Hence the Flying Saucers now "emerging" in our atmosphere are obviously coming from another and higher order of human life and consciousness which, presumably, has a form of space-time-matter transcending our own, and which, being less involved in the illusion of time, both precedes and succeeds our own—hence the concept of "millions of years."

Our world is evidently of a more restricted nature, or putting it another way, the earthly consciousness and life are more bound up in the concept of Time. The advent of the Flying Saucers, however, indicates a "marriage of worlds" as those on earth "awaken" to the existence of these other worlds and their inhabitants. And this, involving as it does some realignment in space-time-matter, that is to say, in the human nature as to its *esse*, must involve something in the nature of a cosmic upheaval or reassembly in the solar system. The ancient knowledge speaks of several cataclysms of this kind as a "fallen" species of man *lost in time* reawakens to reclaim *a lost inheritance* as The Prodigal Son returns unto His Father.

Translating "millions of years" into *changes of consciousness,* or as *changes of state,* we see the timeless state, to wit, immortality or eternity, nearer than most people think, and attained with the resolving of that Will which is contending with The Divine Will, or alternatively, the identification of *the human* with *the divine*—this Great Work in the course of human history now unfolding steadily nearer The Great Consummation—and "it's later than you think!"

AD ALTA.

No Easy Terms

Sir,

I have a couple of criticisms to pass on items in the Jan.-Feb. "F.S. Review." Firstly Mr. Arthur Constance's otherwise very effective article contains a sentence to which strong objection should be made: "Einstein has not patted Newton on the back—he has knocked him on the head." Einstein himself would have been the first to disown this ridiculous statement. But for Newton's discoveries Einstein's work would have been impossible. The latter has made a very slight change in Newton's law of inverse squares, which scarcely affect normal astronomical calculations. Be it noted that Newton's formula was sufficient to enable Adams and Leverrier to discover the planet Neptune from the irregularities in the orbit of Uranus, and to give it its precise location. Einstein is believed to have said that there is no such thing as gravitation (as an attractive force). But both he and all astronomers have been obliged to treat it *as if it were* such a force. And since this leads to correct results the assumption is mathematically sound. There is no need to dishonour the great genius of Newton in the interests of "progress." His laws are still the main pillar of celestial mechanics.

Secondly, I would point out some irrationalities in Mr. J. Pitt's muddle-headed letter on religion. He first agrees that God *does* exist* "as an entity in Himself." (Note the reverential capital H.) Then at the end he dismisses this Deity as "a spiritual wet-nurse." Mr. Pitt seems to know a lot about God-consciousness. Presumably he has made this acquirement himself—by a very easy method. For he writes "man creates God from within his own personality." Historically all genuine religions have sprung from revelation from without, from a Prophet under divine inspiration or personal contact with the Deity-Founder. The *Bible* statement is that God created man in his own image, not vice versa. Under the Christian Dispensation divine consciousness was represented as a process of *begetting.* "As many as received him to them gave he power to become the sons of God." (And Ps. 2, 7.)

There have been many God-conscious persons in the world. We think of Christian Saints who won this reward through a life of devotion, good works and observance of the Sacraments, the latter treated by our bumptious modern intellectuals as "superstition." Look to the East, we see similar lives of devotion, yoga practice of an arduous nature, complete and unquestioning obedience to a chosen Master, meditation and self-denial to the end. It is true that Jesus said "The kingdom of God is within you:" but he also said, "If you love me, keep my *commandments.*" Divine consciousness is not to be had on Mr. Pitt's so easy terms. It is altogether forgotten by the modern world that religion is a path to be *followed,* and that it is only on that path that God undertakes to meet a soul. All this is elementary—and universally forgotten by a generation that has no concern for anything at all beyond the grave. There are two Powers competing for the possession of humanity, the one good, the other evil. If we look beyond the study window to the broad fields of humanity, can we not see the proof? The trouble for us today is that the Christian religion has been destroyed from within. Mammon and Moloch have won the day, chiefly through the defection and pusillanimity of bishops and pastors. It has become, therefore, of ever deepening urgency that religion should be observed in the home life. It is doubtful whether many Westerners can make good in Oriental religions, or on yoga paths. The few who have done so may well, in my opinion, be reincarnated Orientals. Islam, with its foundation in the

Bible, may be an exception. The fact is that, only very exceptionally can a man change his spiritual parentage. This gives point to a verse in an eschatological chapter of Jeremiah (4, v. 1): "If thou wilt return, O Israel, saith the Lord, return unto me." That is, to the Father, the First Person of the Trinity—"the God of our fathers." However, I would not deter anyone from making himself a chela to an Oriental Master. This at least would be more profitable than delving into the obscurities of modern psychology and the "occluded portions of our own minds," probably the Master's first requirement would be the abandonment of unprofitable studies which lead nowhither. There is such a vast difference between the heavy tomes of psychology, "an' a' that, an' a' that," and the "humble and contrite heart" which the God of the Western world holds in such high esteem. There is, however, a modern spiritual movement which I believe to be under divine direction, and to have considerable chances of success, provided that Europe does not fall into renewed chaos. This is the movement initiated by Illf Karmi. We may believe that the high Masters are doing what they can, by one means or another, to save a remnant of Christendom from their disgraceful overlords, and the publicists who trade on the baser instincts of mankind.

This reminder I would leave in conclusion, God does not receive anyone of us *on our own terms*. His terms of Salvation are plainly stated, and it is take it or leave it. For every soul must choose between the upward and the downward path. Belief in the inevitable evolution of man to the divine is fallacious. We have been given the privilege of choosing our own destiny from the standpoint of faith, not of knowledge of what lies beyond. If we *knew*, faith and the free choice would be impaired. If we were not ignorant we could not even be men, and the high destinies open to mankind would not be possible. This is a chief reason for reincarnation, to give man renewed opportunities for that leap in the dark which is creative faith.

Yours truly,
A. ARUNDEL,
Caernarvonshire.

[° *See John Pitt's letter, para. 4.—Ed.*]

Keep Saucers Sane

Sir,

How timely was the editorial admonition in your last issue, anent sensationalism and allied pitfalls. In these latter days of "saucery," such a note of warning is most essential, if the whole subject of u.f.o.s is not to degenerate into further disrepute. So many things are perpetrated and so many claims advanced, in the name of saucer research, not least among them being the participants of the spiritualistic brouhahas.

Such expeditions, as described in the *Observer* Aerial Phenomena Investigator feature, while no doubt seriously intentioned, do nothing to further the cause of solid research. This was made obvious in the comments of your writer and one can imagine the reaction of most readers. Due to Governmental, and other attitudes, reliable information is somewhat difficult to obtain, therefore any activity liable to create derision is one more obstacle to be overcome.

The "Aerial Phenomena Investigator," and others like him, seem to be outwardly decorating the already gaudy and sun-blistered signboards and advertisement hoardings of outer space. I refer in particular to one group who "guided" by an extra-mundane Master, are encouraging their followers (and they *have* some) to take their ration of "Saucery" with copious draughts of Cosmic Water, from a blue-tinted bottle. This Master (who seems far from mundane), tells modestly of the unceasing labours undertaken on behalf of the benighted inhabitants of this allegedly dim little planet.

On one occasion the Master uttered a most revealing statement about himself to the effect, that He had been subjected to ridicule for no less than 2,000 years! I would suggest this can be taken as evidence either of the extreme good sense of all other "guides," or else as a warning that u.f.o. researchers have this delightful martyrdom and possibly more to which to look forward, if they continue, as this group is doing, to emulate Edward Lear.

I am informed that the latest claim by this group is one to which many will take exception, in that it is claimed the medium is controlled by Our Lord Himself. This has happened twice in public, to my knowledge. Surely, this last assertion is sufficient to convince all and sundry of the bizarreness, to say the least, of this particular set-up. It is not hard to envisage the reaction of most thinking people to this sort of thing. Such claims and assertions will no doubt go far in ensuring all who interest themselves in flying saucers, of a very invidious position.

In conclusion, may we hope such further pronouncements are treated with reserve and confined to the place appropriate, be that, where it may.

A. R. BRIMER,
Liverpool.

This Amazing Universe

Continued from page 22.

Now one of several reasons justifying an analytical examination of the evidential values of *OAHSPE*—the name is compounded of O (meaning earth), AH (the sound of the wind) and SPE (meaning spirit)—is the date of its inception: 1881. The book has numerous references to what we now call "flying saucers," many of which might well have been written since 1946, so extraordinarily appropriate are they as descriptions of our modern u.f.o.s.

I came across a copy of OAHSPE in 1916—thirty years before our modern u.f.o. phase—and knew some of the pioneers of the movement which pivoted upon the book in this country at the time. It was not until some years later (1927) that I began whole-time investigation of fantastic phenomena as a journalist, but the book presented some fascinating problems from the moment it came into my possession. As some of these problems are implied in the examination of the possible evidential values of any communications purporting to come from other worlds or dimensions, I hope you will be interested in an unprejudiced and carefully-reasoned examination of them in our next issue.

Report on Unidentified Flying Objects

(*Continued from page 6*)

Flying Objects helps people to understand is the schizophrenia that envelops government organisations like the armed services when tackling unknown mysteries. It explains why nationalised concerns—be they American, British or any other nationality—are so woolly-minded. It helps one to understand why we are no further towards solving the riddle of the u.f.o.

As a literary work, the *Report on the Unidentified Flying Objects* leaves a lot to be desired, because Ruppelt is no master of English or American. But as a record of the flying saucer story it is a must for every bookshelf. It is, in fact, one of the best saucer books out.

Ruppelt and the U.S.A.F. Release

A short while before the book was published in the United States, Press reports of Air Force Secretary Quarles' statement on the U.S.A.F.'s investigation into flying saucers stated there was no proof of their existence and in many cases could be man-made aircraft of revolutionary design.

In a letter to Max B. Miller, Editor of *Saucers* and head of Flying Saucers International of Los Angeles, California, Ruppelt had this to say:

"To begin with, the newspapers, or at least many of them, seemed to have badly misconstrued this release. The Press bits that I saw intimated that the Air Force was saying that such things as vertical take-off fighters, the new AVRO 'saucer' and several other aircraft of radical design had been sighted by people and mistaken for u.f.o.s. I have the release and this was not the case. All that it said, possibly in an effort to throw cold water on the u.f.o. reports, was that in the future such aircraft *might* be reported as u.f.o.s. If the Press, or at least those that played up these types of aircraft as 'the answer,' had been on the ball, they would know that there are only two VTO aircraft in existence; that these two aircraft are at Edward's Air Force Base; and that they do not stray but a few miles from the instrumented test ranges at Edwards. It will be several years, probably, before this AVRO saucer-shaped aircraft ever flies. All of these data have been published in *Aviation Week* magazine.

"Probably the most astounding part of the Press release, at least to me, was the statement that a report 'based on a study by a private scientific group under the supervision of the Air Technical Intelligence Center' concluded that all but a very few u.f.o. sightings could be explained. This was a shock to me because I was the one that had this study made, I worked with the people that made it, and I know how they made it. In the first place the study wasn't made to try to solve the overall u.f.o. problem. It was an attempt to see if a statistical study of u.f.o. reports would give any indications that the u.f.o.s actually were something that we knew nothing about. In other words, something unknown, be they unknowns, interplanetary space-ships, a new natural phenomena, some type of aircraft from some country on this earth, etc. The answer was, after spending a considerable amount of money, statistical methods were no good for a study like this. They didn't prove a thing. The results were such that by interpreting them in different ways you could prove anything that you wanted to. This is not a good study. I was out of the Air Force by the time that the report was published in its final printed form but I saw the unpublished draft and had written it off as worthless.

"Another interesting point is that the report was finished in September, 1953, and it wasn't released as the 'latest hot dope' until October, 1955."

SIGNALS FROM VENUS

RADIO SIGNALS have been received from Venus at the Ohio State University in Columbus. The planet sent out radio impulses twice on May 23, according to Professor John Krauss, director of the Observatory. Both spells lasted two hours.

Scientists were watching Venus when a loud crackling echoed in the radio telescope room. A pen-and-ink recorder scribbled violently and shot about at random. "No one can say whether the signals were 'made' or 'deliberately designed'," said the professor, "but it was something unusual." It resembled radio static from thunderstorms on earth.

This is the first time signals have been picked up from Venus, which is about 27,000,000 miles distant at present and in opposition to the earth. Twenty-four hour watches are being kept to see whether the signals are repeated.

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